WEST VIRGINIA HISTORY

A Quarterly Magazine

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CECILE R. GOODALL, *Editor*

BESS HARRISON, *Managing Editor*

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Some Other Successful West Virginians

By CARROL H. QUENZEL

Thirty-five of the individuals having sketches in the selective and scholarly retrospective *Dictionary of American Biography* were born in West Virginia or in the section which became West Virginia.[1] Of these, the following fourteen receive some mention in one or more of the principal histories of our state: Thomas Jonathan ("Stonewall") Jackson and Jesse Lee Reno, generals; David Hunter Strother ("Porte Crayon"), general-artist-writer; French Ensor Chadwick, admiral-historian; William L. Wilson and Waitman T. Willey, statesmen; Dwight W. Morrow, diplomat-financier; Melville Davisson Post, Philip Pendleton Cooke and Daniel Bedinger Lucas, writers; George Burman Foster, theologian-educator; Michael Owens, inventor-glass manufacturer; Israel C. White, geologist; and Ebenezer Zane, pioneer.[2]

Our historians are surely free from criticism for omitting the others, as they undoubtedly considered them too slightly associated with West Virginia to deserve mention. Nevertheless, the fact that they have received recognition for making an important contribution to some section of our country may cause some West Virginians to welcome a brief introduction to them.

Five of these "natives" who made good elsewhere were

[1] *Dictionary of American Index* (New York, 1937), p. 296. Cited through the courtesy of the publishers, Charles Scribner's Sons, and the *Dictionary of American Biography*.

[2] C. H. Ambler, *West Virginia: The Mountain State* (New York, 1940); and *West Virginia Stories and Biographies* (Chicago, 1937); James Morton Callahan, *Semi-Centennial History of West Virginia* (n. p., 1913); Philip M. Conley, *West Virginia Yesterday and Today* (Charleston, 1931) and *Beacon Lights of West Virginia History* (Charleston, 1939); Virgil A. Lewis, *History of West Virginia* (Philadelphia, 1889); M. P. Shawkey, *West Virginia in History, Life, Literature and Industry* (Chicago, 1928).

governors of states or territories. The first of this group to be elevated to the governor's chair was Thomas Worthington (1773-1827), a son of Charles Town, who was the chief executive of Ohio from 1814 to 1818. His messages to the legislature have been characterized as being notable for their advocacy of social reform and he is recognized as the prime mover in the establishment of the state library. In addition to being twice governor of his adopted state, Worthington represented it in the United States Senate (1803-1807, 1810-1814); was a member of the territorial House of Representatives (1799-1803), a delegate to the convention that drafted Ohio's first state constitution, and a member of the General Assembly (1803, 1807-1808, 1821-1823, 1824-1825). After retiring from office he championed the adoption of improved agricultural methods, the establishment of a state supported school system, and the furtherance of the Ohio canal system.[8]

Another native of Jefferson County, Robert Lucas (1781-1853) of Shepherdstown, was governor of Ohio from December 1832 to December 1836. Before winning that honor he had been a major-general of the Ohio militia, an officer in the War of 1812, a member and presiding officer of both houses of the state legislature of Ohio, and temporary and permanent chairman of the first Democratic National Convention, that of 1832.

The expiration of his second term as governor did not conclude his gubernatorial experience, as President Van Buren appointed him governor and superintendent of Indian affairs of the newly created territory of Iowa. He held this position until he was replaced by a Whig in 1841. Boundary disputes claimed much of his attention as governor, both in Ohio where the controversy with Michigan led to the "Toledo War" and in Iowa where the disagreement was with Missouri. Lucas zealously advocated the establishment of public schools in the territory and ar-

[8] *Biographical Directory of American Congress, 1774-1927* (Washington, 1928), p. 1730; Charles P. Galbreath, *History of Ohio*, Vol. II:32-33 (Chicago, 1925); Beverley W. Bond, Jr., *The Civilization of the Old Northwest . . .* (New York, 1934), pp. 91, 101-146, 309-341, *passim*.

ranged for their support by the appropriation of public lands. He also did much to prohibit the liquor traffic in Iowa.[4]

John Miller (1781-1846), a Berkeley Countian, was the third governor of Missouri and the only person to hold that position for more than one term. He was elected in 1825 to fill the unexpired term of Governor Frederick Bates who died in office, and then in 1828 he was re-elected for a full four-year term. As governor he has been characterized as a "faithful guardian of the state treasury" and as one who placed ability before party in making appointments. He advocated the establishment of a college and a state library and federal-state protection of trade and travel on the Santa Fe Trail.

Miller's pre-gubernatorial career included a newspaper editorship in Steubenville, Ohio; the rank of general in the Ohio militia; the colonelcy of the Nineteenth United States Infantry in the War of 1812; and the post of registrar of the land office at Franklin, Howard County, Missouri. In 1836, four years after stepping out of the governorship, he was elected to Congress where he served three successive terms in the House of Representatives.[5]

When Colonel S. W. Kearney conquered New Mexico in September 1846, he appointed as civil governor Charles Bent (1799-1847), a native of Charleston, who had been engaged in freighting and fur trading in New Mexico since 1832. When Kearney's troops left for California, Mexicans and Indians in certain localities attempted to overthrow the American regime. In the uprising at Taos in January 1847 Governor Bent was killed, much to the sorrow of the people of the territory. Bent was the eldest of four brothers whose exploits bulk large in the history

[4] Galbreath, *op. cit.*, Vol. II:463, 496, 504; *National Cyclopaedia of American Biography*, Vol. XI:428 (New York, 1909); John C. Parish in *Dictionary of American Biography*, Vol. XI:487-488 (New York, 1933).

[5] *Biographical Dictionary of American Congress . . . op. cit.*, p. 1313; *National Cyclopaedia of American Biography*, Vol. XII:302-303 (New York, 1904); H. Edward Nettels in *Dictionary of American Biography*, Vol. XII:628-629 (New York, 1933).

of the Colorado-New Mexico frontier. His wife's younger sister married Kit Carson.[6]

In 1895 Lloyd Lowndes (1845-1905) was elected governor of Maryland, the first Republican to be so honored in thirty years. His victory was received with considerable satisfaction by some of the older residents of Clarksburg, since Lowndes had not only been born in that city but had also received his elementary education there. His administration of the affairs of the state evoked expressions of approval from both major political parties.

Before becoming governor Lowndes had been a member of the United States House of Representatives during the forty-third Congress (March 4, 1873-March 4, 1875) but he was better known as a Cumberland business man who possessed extensive interests in mining, milling and banking enterprises.[7]

In addition to producing five governors of states or territories, West Virginia furnished Michigan a lieutenant-governor in the person of Edmund Burke Fairfield (1821-1904). This native of Parkersburg is remembered chiefly, however, as an educator and clergyman. He was chancellor of the University of Nebraska from 1876 to 1882 and leader of the Fundamentalist faction of that faculty in its fight against the teaching of Darwinism. Before going to Lincoln he had been president of the Free Baptist College at Springfield, Michigan; its successor, Hillsdale (Michigan) College, and of the state normal school at Indiana, Pennsylvania.

Fairfield was a preacher of the Gospel for fifty years and a frequent contributor to theological and educational reviews. From 1889-1893 he was the United States Consul at Lyons, France.[8]

Our country's present hectic drive to produce large num-

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[6] David Yancey Thomas, *A History of Military Government in Newly Acquired Territory of the United States* (New York, 1904), pp. 115-119; W. W. H. Davis, *El Gringo or New Mexico and Her People* (New York, 1857), pp. 96-97.

[7] *Biographical Directory of the American Congress. . .op. cit.*, p. 1242; Ella Lonn in *Dictionary of American Biography*, Vol. XI:471-472 (New York, 1933); James McSherry and Bartlett B. James, *History of Maryland* (Baltimore, 1904), p. 417.

[8] Gilbert H. Doane in *Dictionary of American Biography*, Vol. VI:257 (New York, 1931); *National Cyclopaedia of American Biography*, Vol. VIII:360-361 (New York, 1901).

bers of skilled workers in the mechanical trades would probably have been unnecessary if more heed had been paid to the advice of Charles Erastus Vawter (1841-1905), a Monroe County-born pioneer in industrial education. His effectiveness in this field in the post-bellum South was enhanced by the fact that he served with distinction in the Confederate Army and that he was one of the four sons of Captain John Henderson Vawter who became captains.

Receiving his formal education from Emory and Henry College and the University of Virginia, he taught mathematics and Hebrew for ten years in the former institution before entering upon his life's work as superintendent of the Miller Manual Labor School of Albermarle County, Virginia, in 1878. Realizing his ideal of a school "that would train mind and hand together," Vawter established one of the first successful industrial arts schools in the country and gradually overcame most of the Southern prejudice against manual labor training for white youths. He had great influence in promoting industrial education in the public schools throughout the United States.

Vawter was a member of the State Board of Education of Virginia and a trustee of Virginia Polytechnical Institute, of the Normal and Industrial School for Girls (now Farmville State Teachers College), of Emory and Henry College and the Normal and Industrial Institute for Negroes at Petersburg.[9]

We have noted previously that a West Virginian was the first territorial governor of Iowa. The contribution of our state to the officialdom of the "tall corn" state, moreover, also included two prominent members of her Congressional delegation. In the case of the more prominent of the duo, Jonathan Prentiss Dolliver (1858-1910), the Mountain State did more than include within its borders his birthplace near Kingwood, Preston County. He was graduated from West Virginia University with the Bache-

[9] "Captain Vawter," *Outlook*, Vol. LXXXI:586 (November 11, 1905); Cornelius J. Heatwole, *A History of Education in Virginia* (New York, 1916), pp. 370-371; Oren F. Morton, *A History of Monroe County, West Virginia*, (Staunton, Va., 1916), p. 413.

lor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees, respectively, in 1875 and 1878. Furthermore, he studied law in a Morgantown law office.

Dolliver first attracted public notice when his keynote speech at the Republican State Convention in 1884 so impressed Albert Beveridge that he insisted the young orator campaign with the presidential nominee, James G. Blaine. His political progress was rapid thereafter. He represented the Tenth Congressional District in the United States House of Representatives for six terms and then he was elected to the United States Senate. As a senator he started out following the lead of his conservative colleague, W. B. Allison, but at the time of Dolliver's death he had grown close to La Follette, Clapp and Beveridge.[10]

The other son of West Virginia who became a congressman from Iowa, Charles Fletcher Lacey (1841-1913), was born near New Martinsville, but moved to a farm close to Oskaloosa, Iowa, when he was fourteen. As a member of the United States House of Representatives from 1889-1891 and 1893-1907 he was especially active in framing legislation for the conservation of the Nation's natural resources.

Before going to Washington, Lacey was known as an authority on railway law, a compiler of the *Third Iowa Digest*, a member of the Iowa General Assembly and an assistant adjutant-general in the Thirty-third Iowa Volunteers during the Civil War.[11]

Congressman Lacey and several of the other personalities discussed previously had military experience but were distinguished primarily for civil attainments. On the other hand, John Caldwell Tidball and Henry Kyd Douglas were first and foremost soldiers. Tidball (1825-1906) was a native of Ohio County and a graduate of West Point who saw service against the Seminoles in New Mexico and

[10] *Biographical Directory of the American Congress. . .op. cit.*, p. 914; Letter from J. Everett Long, Assistant Registrar, West Virginia University, July 14, 1941; Jeanette P. Nichols in *Dictionary of American Biography*, Vol. V:359-360 (New York, 1930).

[11] *Biographical Directory of the American Congress. . .*, p. 1196; *Who's Who in America 1903-1905* (Chicago, 1903), p. 860; Charles E. Payne in *Dictionary of American Biography*, Vol. X:519-520 (New York, 1933).

John Brown's insurrectionists at Harpers Ferry. During the War between the States he participated in the expedition to Fort Pickens, Florida; the Manasses, Peninsular and Gettysburg campaigns; and the battles of Antietam, Chancellorsville, Spottsylvania and North Anna. During the Peninsular campaign Tidball initiated the practice of having taps sounded at a soldier's burial instead of firing a volley. After serving part of 1864 as commandant of the United States Military Academy, he was assigned to the Army of the Potomac as chief of artillery, and retained this post until the cessation of hostilities.

In the general post-war reduction of rank, Tidball was reduced from the brevets of major-general of volunteers and brigadier-general, U. S. A., to captain. During subsequent service on the Pacific Coast and in Alaska and as aide-de-camp to General William T. Sherman and commandant of the Artillery School, he was promoted successively to the ranks of major, lieutenant-colonel and colonel. The author of the *Manual of Heavy Artillery Service,* Tidball retired on account of age in 1889.[12]

Although not an army career man like Tidball, Henry Kyd Douglas (1838-1903) was "a soldier of the first rank." This college-educated and law-trained native of Shepherdstown was admitted to the bar in Charleston before moving to St. Louis. With the outbreak of the War between the States he returned to Jefferson County in order to enlist as a private in the Second Virginia Regiment. As inspector-general and aide-de-camp to "Stonewall" Jackson he accompanied him throughout the Shenandoah Valley campaign and was present when Jackson was killed at Chancellorsville. Douglas was wounded and captured at Gettysburg and he was twice wounded in the retreat of the Confederate Army to Appomattox.

On being paroled he retired to Shepherdstown, but his retirement was marred by an arrest for breaking military regulations and by the need of establishing his innocence

[12] T. F. McNeill in *Dictionary of American Biography.* Vol. XVIII:529-530 (New York, 1936); *Who's Who in America 1906-1907* (Chicago, 1906), p. 1783.

of any complicity in the assassination of Lincoln. Opening law offices in Hagerstown, Maryland, in 1867, he commanded the Maryland forces guarding the Baltimore and Ohio and Chesapeake and Ohio Railroads during the railroad strike of 1877. For years a lieutenant-colonel of the First Maryland National Guards, Douglas was appointed adjutant-general of Maryland in 1892 and as such he was commander of the state troops during the George's Creek coal strike. His one civil office was that of justice of the Fourth Maryland Judicial Circuit for seven months.[13]

William "Billy" Dixon (1850-1913) was not a general himself, but he was a scout for General Nelson A. Miles. This frontiersman and buffalo hunter was born in Ohio County but as a twelve-year-old he went to live with an uncle in Missouri and within a few years he was a hunter, trapper and driver of government mule trains. Dixon distinguished himself for cool courage in the Second Battle of Adobe Walls, Hutchinson County, Texas, when twenty-eight hunters repulsed seven hundred Indians, but he won the Congressional Medal for his part in the stand of six whites against one hundred and twenty-five Indians. Postmaster of Adobe Walls for nearly twenty years, he was for a portion of that period also local land commissioner, sheriff and justice of peace. He dictated his reminiscences to Olive King Dixon, his journalist wife.[14]

Clarksburg-born David Waldo (1802-1878) chose the same general region as Dixon for his activities as a physician, trader and banker. In early youth he rafted logs down the Ohio River and then in 1820 he moved to Gasconade County, Missouri, where he served in several county offices. Securing a medical education at Transylvania University, Lexington, Kentucky, he practiced his profession in three locations in Missouri and in Taos in present-day New Mexico. He deserted medicine to engage in the Santa Fe trade, in which he continued for over thirty years.

[13] *Who's Who in America*, 1903-1905 (Chicago, 1903), p. 411; H. W. Howard Knott in *Dictionary of American Biography*, Vol V:395-396 (New York, 1930).
[14] William J. Ghent in *Dictionary of Biography*, Vol. V:331 (New York), 1930). Facts summarized from this biographical sketch by permission of the publishers, Charles Scribner's Sons and the *Dictionary of American Biography*.

Amassing a fortune he returned to Missouri where he became captain in Company A of Colonel Doniphan's Regiment. During the Mexican War he performed the valuable service of translating documents captured from the Mexicans. He spent the latter part of his life as a banker in Missouri.[15]

His professional activities as a mining engineer caused Franklin Rueben Carpenter (1848-1910) to live even a more nomadic life than Waldo. Born in Parkersburg and apprenticed for a time to a jeweler and watchmaker, he studied civil engineering at Rector's College, Pruntytown. Opening an engineering office in Georgetown, Colorado, where he had been principal of schools, he surveyed that region. Tin deposits attracted him to the Black Hills and he was dean of the Dakota Territorial School of Mines for two years.

From 1889, as a specialist in metallurgy, he developed a new method of semipyritic smelting; perfected a process for the electrostatic concentration of Lake Superior copper ores; and discovered an economical method for producing a raw material needed in the manufacture of nickel steel by the open hearth method. Carpenter held a number of patents on processes for the treatment of metals and he was a frequent contributor to professional journals.[16]

A son of Ohio County, William Lukens Elkins (1832-1903) is remembered principally as a street railway executive and as a manufacturer of illuminating gas. Like John D. Rockefeller, with whom he was associated as a partner in the Standard Oil Company for five years, Elkins commenced his business career with a produce firm. He secured control of the oil refining business in Philadelphia by establishing some refineries and purchasing others. The first gasoline was made in one of these refineries.

Elkins secured an interest in a number of gas works throughout the United States and he was one of the founders

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[15] Stella M. Drumm in *Dictionary of American Biography*, Vol XIX:332 (New York, 1936), paraphrased by permission of the publishers, Charles Scribner's Sons and the *Dictionary of American Biography*.

[16] Edna Yost in *Dictionary of American Biography*, Vol. III:511 (New York, 1929); *Who's Who in America*, 1903-1905 (Chicago, 1903), p. 235.

of the United Gas and Improvement Company. He organized the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company and he was financially interested in similar enterprises in Chicago, New York, Baltimore and Pittsburgh. With P. A. B. Widener he helped develop Philadelphia by buying tracts of land in the northwest section of the city and by erecting 3000 houses.

Business was not his sole interest, as he actively promoted the development of art in the United States by accumulating a valuable art collection and by establishing a $5000 award for the most meritorious painting exhibited by an American artist at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. His appointments as United States Commissioner to the Vienna Exposition in 1873 and to the Paris Exposition in 1900 were well-earned recognition. He was keenly interested in civic affairs and he served one term in the Philadelphia City Council.[17]

More than any other man William Gregg (1800-1857) deserved being called the "father of Southern cotton manufacture." This native of Monongalia County was the founder and owner of the pioneer model cotton mill town of Graniteville, South Carolina. He insisted that the South should confine itself to the production of a small range of textiles for the world market. A leader in the organization of the South Carolina Institute for the Encouragement of the Mechanical Arts, Gregg was a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives for two terms in the decade immediately preceding the Civil War.[18]

Many West Virginians have been justly proud of the fact that seven native sons have been bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but it is not so well known that David Hummell Greer (1814-1919), a native of Wheeling, was the bishop of the New York City diocese of the Protestant Episcopal Church between 1908 and 1919. He met

[17] *National Cyclopaedia of American Biography*, Vol. IX:324 (New York, 1907); John H. Frederick in *Dictionary of American Biography*, Vol. VI:84-85 (New York, 1931).

[18] Broadus Mitchell, *William Gregg, Factory Master of the Old South* (Chapel Hill, N. C., 1928), *passim*.

with more than average success, one publicist stating that as a bishop he honored the office to an unusual degree.

Educated in the Wheeling elementary schools, a Morgantown academy, the institution which is now known as Washington and Jefferson College, and in Kenyon College and Theological Seminary, Greer began his ministry as rector of Christ Church, Clarksburg.

He next went to Covington, Kentucky, from whence he was called to Grace Church, Providence, Rhode Island, where he remained for sixteen years. He accepted a call to St. Bartholomew's Church in New York City, and he remained there for a decade and a half despite an invitation to succeed Phillips Brooks at Trinity Church, Boston. During his pastorate at St. Bartholomew's he developed an extensive social welfare program. In 1904 he was made bishop coadjutor of the diocese and then succeeded Bishop Potter four years later. Greer's preaching has been characterized as "powerful, deeply religious, but practical," and it inveritably drew large congregations.[19]

The Methodist parsonage in Lewisburg was the first home of Ehrman Syme Nadal (1843-1922), an informal essayist who enjoyed some popularity in the closing decades of the nineteenth century. Although neither an author of great distinction nor a first-rate critic, he wrote for several publications including the *Nation* and the *New York Evening Post,* and his *Impressions of London Social Life* is still valuable as a picture of the upper strata of English society in the middle 1870's.

From 1867 to 1870 Nadal was employed first in the United States mint at Philadelphia and then in the dead-letter office; for eighteen months in 1870 and 1871 and from June 8, 1877 to November 26, 1883 he was a member of the American Legation in London; and after his return to this country he was secretary to three civil service boards of examiners. His teaching experience included lecturing at Columbia University and secondary school teaching

[19] "David Hummell Greer," *Outlook,* Vol. CXXII:39-140 (May 28, 1919); *Who's Who in America* 1912-1913 (Chicago, 1912); C. H. Ambler, *A History of West Virginia* (New York, 1933), p. 356.

in Pennsylvania, New York and Kansas. He was a dealer in saddle horses during the last twenty years of his life.[30]

Charles Wells Russell (1856-1927) was, like Bishop Greer, a native of Wheeling and, like Nadal, for years a government official and diplomat. The recipient of two law degrees from Georgetown University, Russell was a member of the Department of Justice detailed to handle French spoilation cases during 1886-1893; the legal adviser of the Dockery Joint Congressional Committee investigating the legal organization of the federal executive departments, investigator for the United States government of the conditions in Cuba during the winter of 1897-1898 and counsel for the United States-Spanish Treaty Claims Commission in its successful resistance to claims arising out of the U. S. S. Maine.

Re-entering the Department of Justice in 1902 as special assistant to the Attorney-General, he investigated the French Panama Canal Company's title. It was accepted pursuant to his recommendation, and he later arranged the details of the transfer. He was in charge of insular matters for the Department of Justice until 1905, when he began five years' service as assistant attorney-general. While occupying this position he investigated and prosecuted peonage in the South. Late in December 1909 he was appointed United States minister to Persia and he remained at that post until September, 1914. He was the author of a novel, a play, and collected poems, and he published the memoirs of his father-in-law, Colonel John S. Mosby.[31]

Two Negroes were included among the thirty-five West Virginia biographies. Of these two the personality associated more closely with our state was Christopher Harrison Payne (1848-1925), Monroe County-born Negro Baptist clergyman, lawyer and United States official. Between 1861 and 1889 he was a body servant in the Con-

[30] *National Cyclopaedia of American Biography*, Vol. XI:540 (New York, 1909); *Who's Who in America 1922-1923*, Vol XII:2288 (Chicago, 1922); Granville Hicks in *Dictionary of American Biography*, Vol. XIII:378-379 (New York, 1934).
[31] *National Cyclopaedia of American Biography*, Vol. XV:358 (New York, 1916); Charles S. Lobinger in *Dictionary of American Biography*, Vol. XVI:241 (New York, 1935).

federate Army, a farm hand near Hinton, a steamboating man on the Ohio, a night school student in Charleston, a school teacher in Summers County, a graduate of Richmond Institute (the present-day Virginia Union University), a missionary for the eastern district of Virginia, and successively pastor of Baptist churches in Richmond, Montgomery, Norfolk and Huntington.

In order to promote the advancement of the Negro race Payne established three newspapers: the *West Virginia Enterprise,* the Montgomery *Pioneer* and the *Mountain Eagle.* As a reward for his services to the Republican Party he held various positions with the United States Bureau of Internal Revenue. While so employed he devoted his leisure time to the study of law, and he was admitted to the bar in West Virginia. In 1896 Payne was elected to the House of Delegates, the first Negro to win a seat in the West Virginia Legislature. In 1903 he was appointed United States consul at St. Thomas in the Danish West Indies, a post which he retained until the purchase by the United States in 1917. Continuing to reside in the island, this eloquent preacher served successively as prosecuting attorney and as police judge. He held the latter position at the time of his death.[22]

Martin Robinson Delany (1812-1885) was an editor, lecturer, physician, explorer, the first Negro major in the United States Army, an employee in the Freedman's Bureau, and a customs house inspector and a trial justice in Charleston, South Carolina. The interests of this Jefferson Countian took him to Canada, Africa, and England. Although he was a prolific writer he is principally remembered for his *The Condition, Elevation, Emigration, and Destiny of the Colored People of the United States, Politically Considered.* This work is indispensable for a study of the Negro in the 1850's.[23]

[22] Carter Woodson, "Notes," *Journal of Negro History,* Vol XI:225-227 (Jan., 1926); *Who's Who in America 1916-1917* (Chicago, 1916), p. 1901; Thomas E. Posey, *The Negro Citizen of West Virginia* (Institute, W. Va., 1934).
[23] Benjamin Brawley, *The Negro Genius...* (New York, 1937), p. 68.

Methodism In West Virginia

From the Year 1800 to the Organization of the Pittsburgh Conference in 1825*

By Virgil A. Lewis

The year 1801 marks an era in the history of American Methodism. Prior to that time, the unit of work had been known as a "district," the term "conference" signifying simply a gathering of officials and circuit riders to discuss principles, doctrinal points, and methods of procedure. Now the term came to have a double meaning, designating, not only, as theretofore, a body of preachers sitting in their assemblies, but also the territory or field of work to which they were assigned; these having, hereafter, fixed and definite boundaries. Then there were six of these conferences: Baltimore, New England, New York, Philadelphia, South Carolina, Virginia, and the Western. At that time, therefore, and ever since, the territorial units of work known to the Methodist Episcopal Church have been the conference, the district, and the circuit or station. In the Baltimore Conference there were three districts, the Baltimore, Alexandria, and Pittsburgh. In the first of these lay three West Virginia circuits—all in the eastern portion of the State—Allegheny, Berkeley, and Pendleton. In the last named, were the Clarksburg, Little Kanawha, and Ohio County Circuits, all of the western and northwestern part of the State. In the Virginia Conference, there were four districts, one of which, Richmond, extended to the westward so as to include the Greenbrier Circuit in West

*This article by the late Virgil A. Lewis was a paper read by him before the Layman's Association of the Methodist Church in October, 1911.

Virginia. Westward from the eastern seaboard, the star of Methodism, like that of Empire, took its way, and West Virginia lay in its course. We are, therefore, to make proper note of its growth and development amid our mountains, hills and valleys, for the first twenty-five years of the last century. In our effort to do this, we shall endeavor to mention the conferences, districts and circuits, as they were identified with West Virginia as the years of the period of which we write, sped away.

Some Ecclesiastical Geography—The Baltimore Conference

He who would make research and investigation will speedily learn that as a knowledge of geography is necessary to an intelligent understanding of civil history, so it is in the study of ecclesiastical history. It is safe, therefore, to say that none will ever possess a knowledge of the history of Methodism in West Virginia without an intelligent idea of the bounds and extent of conferences, districts and circuits, in the order in which they were created, and in the length of time they existed therein. First then as to conferences. The first and most important of these was the Baltimore, the oldest Methodist Organization of its class in America. It was a potent factor in the planting of Methodism in West Virginia, over nearly the whole extent of which its jurisdiction extended at the beginning of the century. It was divided into three districts in 1801: the Baltimore, the Alexandria and the Pittsburgh.

The Alexandria—Greenbrier—Potomac—Carlisle And Winchester Districts

No part of the Baltimore District extended into West Virginia; but the second—Alexandria District, so named from the old town, that extended far up the Potomac River, and in 1801, the beginning of the period of which we write, included Berkeley, Pendleton and Allegheny Circuits within its limits. In 1803, the Baltimore Conference created Greenbrier District, having within it Greenbrier

and Pendleton Circuits; and to it, was added in 1805, Monroe Circuit, formed that year. Three years later, the New River Circuit was created, and likewise attached to Greenbrier District. In 1809, the Potomac District was created and made to include the West Virginia Circuits of Berkley, Pendleton and Allegheny. In 1811, Allegheny Circuit, which at that time included a large part of Hardy and Hampshire Counties, was transferred to Greenbrier District; but this was to last but a little time; for in 1813, the Baltimore Conference created Hampshire Circuit and it together with Allegheny Circuits, was transferred that year to Carlisle Circuit, which derived its name from the town of Carlisle, Pennsylvania. The next year, 1814, the name of Hampshire Circuit was changed to Moorefield, and in 1815, it was merged or consolidated with Allegheny Circuit, which in 1816 was taken from Carlisle Circuit, and attached to Greenbrier District. In 1819, the South Branch Circuit was created and added to this District. The year 1820 brought other important changes on the map of Methodism in the State. That year Jefferson Circuit was created to include Jefferson County, and added to Potomac District. This like many other important changes was to last but a little time, for the same year all the West Virginia Circuits, including Jefferson, were transferred to the new Winchester District, in which all were at the close of the period of which I am writing—the year 1825.

THE PITTSBURGH—MONONGAHELA

In 1801, the Pittsburgh District, the third of the Baltimore Conferences, included the Ohio County Circuit (1787), the Clarksburg Circuit (1787), and the Little Kanawha Circuit (1799). In 1804, the name of the Pittsburgh District was changed to that of Monongahela District. In it within the next fifteen years much Methodist history was to be made. In 1806, Monongalia Circuit was formed within this District. The same year, the name of Randolph Circuit appears in this District. It

had been formed in 1790; disappeared from the Minutes in 1792; restored in 1806, and continued until 1816, when it was then consolidated with Monongalia Circuit, until 1824, when it again appears as one of the circuits in Monongahela District. In 1807, the name of Clarksburg Circuit disappeared from the Minutes, a part of it being added to the restored Randolph Circuit, and the remainder attached to Monongalia Circuit. In 1810, East Wheeling Circuit was created within the bounds of Monongahela District; six years later, Harrison formed the limits of what had been Clarksburg Circuit. Three years later (1819), Preston Circuit was formed to embrace the limits of the new county of Preston just then checkered on the map of Virginia. This Circuit disappeared from the Minutes in 1822, nevermore to reappear under the jurisdiction of the Baltimore Conference. In 1820, Middle Island Circuit was created; and in 1821, Lewis Circuit was created, the former embracing what is now Pleasants, Doddridge and a part of Tyler Counties; the latter including what is now Lewis County with portions of what became Gilmer, Braxton, and Upshur Counties; and both were added to Monongahela District. The last unit of work created by the Baltimore Conference in Monongahela District within the period of which we write was Wheeling Station, which first appears in the Minutes of 1824.

In 1819, the old Pittsburgh District of the Baltimore Conference, which had not appeared in the Minutes for fifteen years, was restored by that Conference, which the same year created Short Creek Circuit, out of the old Ohio County Circuit, and added it to the Pittsburgh District. Such in brief, was the work of the old Baltimore Conference in the creation of districts and circuits in West Virginia prior to 1825.

The Western Conference—Ohio Conference—Tennessee Conference—Kentucky Conference

Interesting as is the story of that part of the history of Methodism in West Virginia made by the Baltimore Con-

ferences, in the eastern and northern portions thereof; even more so is that made by other conferences in the western and southern portions of the State.

One of the acts of the General Conference at its session in 1796 was to create the Western Conference, the first body of its kind west of the Alleghenies, or in the Mississippi Valley. Its boundaries were defined, in 1804, as including "Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, all that part of Virginia which lies west of the great river Kanawha, with the Illinois and Natchez Circuits." This year (1804) this Conference created the Ohio District in which, at the same time, the Little Kanawha Circuit was transferred by the Baltimore Conference; and Guyandotte Circuit created in "that part of Virginia which lies west of the great river Kanawha." In 1810, the Western Conference created the Big Sandy Circuit, attaching it to the Kentucky District. Thus all three of these circuits—the Little Kanawha, the Guyandotte, and the Big Sandy River—lay within the bounds of the Western Conference until 1812, when the General Conference extinguished it by the creation of the Tennessee and the Ohio Conferences, and the name of the Western Conference disappeared forever from the ecclesiastical map of the United States.

The first session of the Ohio Conference was held at Chillicothe, in October, 1812, when it appeared that its boundaries, geographically, extended westward into the State of Indiana; northward to the Great Lakes and included the valleys of the Little and Great Kanawha Rivers, that is all the region from Middle Island Creek, now in Pleasants County, down the Ohio to the mouth of the Big Sandy River. Herein were three circuits, Little Kanawha, Guyandotte, and Big Sandy River; the first and second were by the Ohio Conference, put in the Muskingum District; and the latter in the Kentucky District. Thus they remained until 1820, when, by an order of the General Conference, they with Middle Island Circuit, and Big Kanawha Circuit, both created by the Ohio Conference that year, together with Greenbrier and Monroe Cir-

cuits taken from the Greenbrier District of the Baltimore Conference, that year, were made to form the Kanawha District of the Tennessee Conference. This arrangement was, however, to continue but a single year; for the General Conference, in 1820, created the Kentucky Conference, which at its organization was made to include in its Kanawha District the Middle Island, Little Kanawha, Big Kanawha, Guyandotte, Big Sandy River, Greenbrier and Monroe Circuits. In 1823, the Kentucky Conference created the Nicholas Circuit in the new county of Nicholas in West Virginia; and at the same time, transferred the Big Sandy River Circuit from its Kanawha District to its Augusta District. Thus remained these southern and western circuits of West Virginia until 1825.

ORGANIZATION OF THE PITTSBURGH CONFERENCE IN 1825

By an act of the General Conference, the Pittsburgh Conference in 1824, and its organization in 1825, made a complete readjustment of the administrative organization of Methodism. We have seen what this organization was before this time; let us see what it was after the readjustment had taken place—that is when the Pittsburgh Conference had been organized. Then an ecclesiastical map of the State showing how Methodism had been divided, would have resembled one showing the partitioning of Poland. In the autumn of 1825, the Baltimore Conference had seven circuits in the State: Berkeley, Allegheny, Jefferson, Pendleton, South Branch, Monroe, and Greenbrier, two of which—Berkeley and Allegheny—were in Carlisle District, and the others in the Winchester District. On these were fourteen circuit riders, and the membership was 3,973 white, and 300 colored, a total of 4,273. The Ohio Conference had five circuits in the State: Guyandotte, Big Kanawha, Charleston, Nicholas, and Logan, the two latter having been formed by this Conference that year; and all being in the Kanawha District of said Conference. There were five circuit riders on these circuits that year; and the membership was 1,475 white, and 105 colored, a total of

1,580. The Pittsburgh Conference had ten circuits in the State: Ohio County, Monongalia, Randolph, Lewis, Harrison, Clarksburg, Short Creek, Middle Island, Wheeling, and Little Kanawha, all in Monongahela District of that Conference. There were eleven circuit riders on these circuits; and the membership was 4,344 white, and 118 colored, a total of 4,462. From the foregoing, it is seen that in 1825, there were in the State 22 circuits, 32 circuit riders, and a membership of 9,882 white and 523 colored, a total of 10,325.

Exhibits Of Methodist Organization In West Virginia From 1801 To 1825, Inclusive

The following tabulations show at a glance the complete organization of the work of the Methodist Episcopal Church in West Virginia from 1801 to 1825, inclusive. Herein appear by years, the name of the conference, the district, the presiding elder, the circuit, the circuit rider; and the membership, white, colored and total, whenever the same could be obtained.

Much labor and research has been necessary in collecting and in arranging this material. It will of course be remembered that the presiding elders were then, as now, superintendents of districts, and as such were connected with the circuits, only in parts of the districts in which they had supervision.

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1801

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
Baltimore	Alexandria	Daniel Hitt	Berkeley	Hamiltcn Jefferson	150	5
Baltimore	Alexandria		Allegheny	Solomon Harris, Edmund Wayman	327	31
Baltimore	Alexandria		Pendleton	James Paynter	618	125
Baltimore	Pittsburgh	Thornton Fleming	Ohio Co.	Benjamin Essex, Joseph Hall	504	17
Baltimore	Pittsburgh		Clarksburg	Thomas Daughaday, John Kewly	514	6
Baltimore	Pittsburgh		Little Kanawha	John Philips	47	3
Virginia	Richmond	Philip Bruce	Greenbrier	Joseph Pinnell	357	7
				Total:	2,517	194

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1802

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
Baltimore	Alexandria	Daniel Hitt	Berkeley	Solomon Harris, Thomas Doxey	387	66
Baltimore	Alexandria		Allegheny	John Simmons, John Kewly	347	14
Baltimore	Alexandria		Pendleton	William Knox	160	7
Baltimore	Pittsburgh	Thornton Fleming	Ohio Co.	Joseph Cheveront, George Askin	329	17
Baltimore	Pittsburgh		Clarksburg	Peter B. Davis, Jeremiah Browning	602	9
Baltimore	Pittsburgh		Little Kanawha	Nathaniel B. Mills	150	3
Virginia	Richmond	Philip Bruce	Greenbrier	Joseph Philips	356	8
				Total:	2,331	124

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1803

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
Baltimore	Alexandria	Daniel Hitt	Berkeley	Isaac Robins, John Bell	436	69
Baltimore	Alexandria		Allegheny	James Paynter, Nathaniel B. Mills	428	26
Baltimore	Greenbrier	James Ward	Pendleton	Leonard Cassell	171	5
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Greenbrier	James Smith	400	7
Baltimore	Pittsburgh	Thornton Fleming	Ohio Co.	Jesse Stoneman, Lasley Mathews	335	18
Baltimore	Pittsburgh		Clarksburg	James Hunter, Andrew Hemphill	785	5
Baltimore	Pittsburgh		Little Kanawha	William Steel	106	4
				Total:	2,661	134

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1804

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
Baltimore	Alexandria	Daniel Hitt	Berkeley	Fielder Parker, Thomas Budd	602	105
Baltimore	Greenbrier	James Ward	Greenbrier	Frederick Stier, Edmund Henley	607	36
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Allegheny	James Paynter, Joseph Stone, James Reid	457	54
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Pendleton	Joseph Hays	342	7
Baltimore	Monongahela	Thornton Fleming	Ohio Co.	Thomas Daughaday, Joseph A. Shackelford	420	20
Baltimore	Monongahela		Clarksburg	Noah Fidler, John Holmes	791	18
Baltimore	Ohio	Wm. Burke	Little Kanawha	George Askin	163	5
Baltimore	Ohio		Guyandotte	Asa Shinn	25	--
				Total:	3,407	245

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1805

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
Baltimore	Alexandria	Enoch George	Berkeley	Sampson Trammell, Jesse Pinnell	559	65
Baltimore	Greenbrier	James Ward	Greenbrier	Lesley Mathews, Adam Burge	873	41
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Allegheny	Morris Howe, Daniel Fidler	656	79
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Pendleton	Philip Kennerly	385	12
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Monroe	Nathaniel B. Mills	---	--
Baltimore	Monongahela	James Hunter	Ohio Co.	David Stevens, James Watts	420	25
Baltimore	Monongahela		Clarksburg	Robert Manley, Thomas Budd	776	19
Western	Ohio	William Burke	Little Kanawha	Jacob Young	185	3
Western	Ohio		Guyandotte	William Pattison	65	--
				Total:	3,918	244

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1806

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
Baltimore	Alexandria	Enoch George	Berkeley	Thomas Adams, Gerard Morgan	515	94
Baltimore	Greenbrier	James Ward	Greenbrier	Thomas Budd, Robert Bolton	544	29
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Allegheny	Morris Howe, Charles Warfield	823	78
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Pendleton	Joseph A. Shackelford	368	14
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Monroe	Andrew Hemphill	290	15
Baltimore	Monongahela	Thornton Fleming	Ohio Co.	William Knox, Adam Burge	478	26
Baltimore	Monongahela		Monongalia	William Page, Joseph Smith	---	--
Baltimore	Monongahela		Clarksburg	----------	700	23
Baltimore	Monongahela		Randolph	Nicholas Willis	---	--
Western	Ohio	John Sale	Little Kanawha	Joseph Oglesby	210	1
Western	Ohio		Guyandotte	Abraham Amos	150	--
				Total	4,078	280

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1807

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
Baltimore	Alexandria	Hamilton Jefferson	Berkeley	David Best, Alfred Griffith	520	91
Baltimore	Greenbrier	Jacob Gruber	Greenbrier	Saul Hinkle	511	37
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Allegheny	Lasley Mathews, Wm. G. Lowman, Moses Lawrence	818	84
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Pendleton	Nathaniel B. Mills	364	25
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Monroe	Timothy Lee	324	15
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Randolph	Adam Burge	130	6
Baltimore	Monongahela	Thornton Fleming	Ohio Co.	David Stevens, Resin Hammond	478	28
Baltimore	Monongahela		Monongalia	Asa Shinn, Joseph A. Shackelford	656	30
Western	Ohio	John Sale	Little Kanawha	Wm. Vermillion	270	4
Western	Ohio		Guyandotte	John Clingan	121	5
				Total:	4,192	325

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1808

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
Baltimore	Alexandria	Hamilton Jefferson	Berkeley	James Reid, John C. Green	523	106
Baltimore	Greenbrier	Jacob Gruber	Greenbrier	Eli Towne, Samuel Montgomery	460	388
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Allegheny	Henry Smith, Eli Hinkle	724	93
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Pendleton	Saul Hinkle	333	70
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Monroe	Edward Mathews	388	12
Baltimore	Greenbrier		New River	George C. Light	---	--
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Randolph	John Swatzwelder	278	8
Baltimore	Monongahela	Thornton Fleming	Ohio Co.	William Page, Thomas Church	459	25
Baltimore	Monongahela		Monongalia	William Knox	553	20

Western	Ohio	John Sale	Little Kanawha	Solomon Langdon, Wm. Ellington	286	4
Western	Ohio		Guyandotte	Frederick Hood	136	3
				Total:	4,140	379

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1809

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
Baltimore	Alexandria	Hamilton Jefferson	Berkeley	Joseph Stone, Eli Hinkle	528	92
Baltimore	Greenbrier	Jacob Gruber	Greenbrier	Joseph Carson, J. Watts	589	34
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Allegheny	William Butler, John Jacob, Simon Luck	635	73
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Pendleton	Gerard Morgan	330	60
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Monroe	Samuel Montgomery	366	15
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Randolph	Joshua Monroe	269	8
Baltimore	Greenbrier		New River	Thomas Adams, Jacob Snyder	269	31
Baltimore	Monongahela	Thornton Fleming	Ohio Co.	William Lambden	470	33
Baltimore	Monongahela		Monongalia	William G. Lowman, John Meek	576	20
Baltimore	Muskingum	James Quinn	Little Kanawha	William Mitchell	286	4
Western	Muskingum		Guyandotte	John Holmes	164	3
				Total:	4,482	373

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1810

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
Baltimore	Potomac	Hamilton Jefferson	Berkeley	Joseph Rowen, John Taylor	700	100
Baltimore	Greenbrier	Christopher Frye	Greenbrier	Beverley Waugh	400	15
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Allegheny	J. Watson, John J. Jacob, Nathan Lodge	750	112
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Pendleton	Saml. Montgomery	315	15
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Monroe	James Reiley	400	15
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Randolph	Wm. G. Lowman	366	6
Baltimore	Greenbrier		New River	Abraham Daniels, Robt. Wilson	273	32
Baltimore	Monongahela	Jacob Gruber	Ohio Co.	John West, Jacob Young	500	37
Baltimore	Monongahela		Monongalia	Allen Green, James M. Hanson	730	22
Baltimore	Monongahela		East Wheeling	Simon Lauck	---	--
Baltimore	Muskingum	James Quinn	Little Kanawha	Wm. Mitchell	376	5
Western	Muskingum		Guyandotte	Joseph Bennett	60	--
Western	Kentucky	James Ward	Big Sandy River	Benjamin Edge	---	--
				Total:	4,870	359

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1811

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
Baltimore	Potomac	Enoch George	Berkeley	Hamilton Jefferson, Thomas Kincaid	705	117
Baltimore	Greenbrier	Christopher Frye	Allegheny	Lasley Mathews, Wesley Webster	755	113
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Greenbrier	Nathaniel B. Mills	344	27
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Pendleton	Ezra Grover	257	16
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Monroe	William Butler	285	16
Baltimore	Greenbrier		New River	James Charles	360	42

Baltimore	Monongahela	Jacob Gruber	Ohio Co.	James Dowell	515	36
Baltimore	Monongahela		Monongalia	John West, Abraham Daniels	790	18
Baltimore	Monongahela		Randolph	James Paynter	330	6
Baltimore	Monongahela		East Wheeling	Simon Lauck	197	--
Western	Muskingum	James Quinn	Little Kanawha	John Holmes	382	5
Western	Muskingum		Guyandotte	Jacob Truman	87	6
Western	Kentucky	John Sale	Big Sandy River	John Johnson	64	--
				Total:	5,267	413

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1812

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
Baltimore	Potomac	Enoch George	Berkeley	Hamilton Jefferson, George Askin	773	125
Baltimore	George Town	Nelson Reed	Allegheny	James Reid, Jacob Snyder, J. Windsor	671	100
Baltimore	Greenbrier	Christopher Frye	Greenbrier	Benedict Reynolds	331	27
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Pendleton	Gerard Morgan	310	18
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Monroe	James Wilson	304	16
Baltimore	Greenbrier		New River	James Paynter	430	46
Baltimore	Monongahela	Jacob Gruber	Ohio Co.	James M. Hanson, F. A. Monjar	384	50
Baltimore			East Wheeling	Amos Barnes	249	--
Baltimore	Monongahela		Monongalia	Thornton Fleming, Wm. Shanks	746	18
Baltimore	Monongahela		Randolph	James Charles	350	10
Western	Muskingum	James Quinn	Little Kanawha	John Brown	340	--
Western	Muskingum		Guyandotte	Samuel West	163	9
Western	Kentucky	John Sale	Big Sandy River	Marcus Lindsey	284	18
				Total:	5,542	440

WEST VIRGINIA METHODISM UNDER THE BALTIMORE, OHIO, TENNESSEE AND KENTUCKY CONFERENCES

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1813

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
Baltimore	Potomac	Enoch George	Berkeley	Joseph Frye, John Lindon	794	126
Baltimore	Greenbrier	Christopher Frye	Greenbrier	James Charles	325	25
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Pendleton	Gerard Morgan, John Connalley	300	15
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Monroe	Robert Wilson	330	23
Baltimore	Greenbrier		New River	Samuel Montgomery	479	74
Baltimore	Carlisle	Robert Burch	Allegheny	James Wilson, Joseph Lanston	785	96
Baltimore	Carlisle		Hampshire	John West, Ezra Grover	---	--
Baltimore	Monongahela	Jacob Gruber	Ohio Co.	James Reiley, William Shanks	588	7
Baltimore	Monongahela		East Wheeling	James Lawes	150	--
Baltimore	Monongahela		Monongalia	John G. Watt, Jacob Foreman	768	18
Baltimore	Monongahela		Randolph	William Monroe, Francis Monjar	360	9
Ohio	Muskingum	James Quinn	Little Kanawha	Samuel West	338	5
Ohio	Muskingum		Guyandotte	Samuel Brown	268	25
Ohio	Kentucky	John S. Berch	Big Sandy River	Jonathan Stamper	465	25
				Total:	6,220	449

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1814

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
Baltimore	Potomac	Enoch George	Berkeley	Richard Tydings, John Macklefresh	946	160
	Greenbrier	Joseph Frye	Greenbrier	Jacob Snyder	325	25
	Greenbrier		Pendleton	William C. Morrison	280	13
	Greenbrier		Monroe	John C. French	369	23
	Greenbrier		New River	William Shanks	498	78
	Carlisle	Robert Burch	Allegheny	John West, Ezra Grover	391	46
	Carlisle		Moorefield	Gerard Morgan	272	44

	Monongahela	Christopher Frye	Ohio Co.	Joshua Monroe, Joseph Lanston	598	73
	Monongahela		East Wheeling	Samuel Montgomery	230	2
			Monongalia	Robert Wilson, Joshua Windsor	772	20
	Monongahela		Randolph	John White, Robert Hanna	332	8
	Muskingum	David Young	Little Kanawha	Robert Hatton	318	5
	Muskingum		Guyandotte	John Cord	340	--
	Kentucky	John Sale	Big Sandy River	Samuel Brown	272	17
				Total:	6,181	516

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1815

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
Potomac	Potomac	Joseph Frye	Berkeley	Nathan Lodge, Richard Buckingham	917	144
	Greenbrier	Gerard Morgan	Greenbrier	John Bull	271	32
	Greenbrier		Pendleton	Zachariah Mitchell	160	22
	Greenbrier		Monroe	Samuel McCann	263	13
	Greenbrier		New River	W. C. Morrison, Samuel P. V. Gillespie	380	91
	Carlisle	Jacob Gruber	Allegheny	Hamilton Jefferson, John C. French, Nicholas Willis	600	90
	Carlisle		Moorefield	----------	86	3
	Monongahela	Christopher Frye	Ohio Co.	Joshua Monroe, James Francis	538	63
	Monongahela		East Wheeling	William Monroe	246	2
	Monongahela		Monongalia	Asby Pool, Robert Boyd	676	19
	Monongahela		Randolph	----------	340	5
	Muskingum	David Young	Little Kanawha	Curtis Goddard	373	5
	Muskingum		Guyandotte	Henry Bascom	289	26
	Kentucky	Samuel Parker	Big Sandy River	Francis Landrum, Oliver Carver	160	--
				Total:	5,598	515

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1816

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
Baltimore	Potomac	Joseph Frye	Berkeley	Beverley Waugh, Nathaniel B. Mills	862	155
Baltimore	Greenbrier	Gerard Morgan	Allegheny	Tobias Riley, Robert Cadden	672	98
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Greenbrier	James Watts	281	30
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Pendleton	Samuel P. V. Gillespie	166	12
Baltimore	Greenbrier		Monroe	Jacob Snyder	257	13
Baltimore	Greenbrier		New River	William C. Morrison, Zachariah Mitchell	406	81
Baltimore	Monongahela	Christopher Frye	Ohio Co.	John White	585	64
Baltimore	Monongahela		East Wheeling	----------	282	3
Baltimore	Monongahela		Monongalia	William Monroe, Joseph Carper	421	12
Baltimore	Monongahela		Harrison	Asby Pool	---	--
Ohio	Muskingum	Jacob Young	Little Kanawha	Samuel Hamilton	320	--
Ohio	Muskingum		Guyandotte	John Dew	240	12
Ohio	Kentucky	Samuel Parker	Big Sandy River	John Cord, John Kent	320	--
				Total:	4,802	480

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1817

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
	Potomac	Joseph Frye	Berkeley	John G. Wyatt, Henry Furlong	781	162
	Greenbrier	Gerard Morgan	Greenbrier	James Watts	268	34
	Greenbrier		Pendleton	Ezra Grover	247	9
	Greenbrier		Monroe	Robert Cadden	265	8
	Greenbrier		New River	Nathaniel B. Mills, Thomas Beaks	358	83
	Greenbrier		Allegheny	Tobias Reily, Samuel P. V. Gillespie	526	114

	Monongahela	Christopher Frye	Ohio Co.	Thornton Fleming, Amos Barnes	530	67
	Monongahela		East Wheeling	John Watson, Joseph Carper	360	3
	Monongahela		Monongalia	John Connalley, Thomas Jamison	449	18
	Monongahela		Harrison	Asa Shinn, M. Covert, R. McAlister	650	10
	Muskingum	Jacob Young	Little Kanawha	John Solomon	320	--
	Kentucky		Guyandotte	John Linville, Samuel Dement	346	11
	Kentucky	Samuel Parker	Big Sandy River	Stephen Spurlock	294	20
				Total:	5,706	539

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1818

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
	Potomac	Joseph Frye	Berkeley	John G. Watt, Henry Furlong	976	217
	Greenbrier	Gerard Morgan	Greenbrier	Robert Boyd	270	28
	Greenbrier		Pendleton	John Watson, Jacob Bromwell	238	15
	Greenbrier		Monroe	James Watts	243	10
	Greenbrier		New River	Basil Barry, John Tanyhill	456	67
	Greenbrier		Allegheny	James McCann, William Monroe, S. Kennerly	631	113
	Monongahela	Asa Shinn	Ohio Co.	Thornton Fleming, Joseph Carper	612	96
	Monongahela		East Wheeling	John Waterman, Amos Barnes	365	6
	Monongahela		Monongalia	Asby Pool, Samuel Cushen	452	13
	Monongahela		Harrison	John Connalley, Nathaniel B. Mills	694	11
	Muskingum	Jacob Young	Little Kanawha	John Graham, John Stewart	480	15
	Kentucky	Samuel Parker	Big Sandy River	Thomas Lowry	428	22
	Kentucky		Guyandotte	Samuel Dement	294	20
				Total:	6,379	633

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1819

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
	Potomac	Christopher Frye	Berkeley	James McCann, Thomas Dorsey	1,082	242
	Greenbrier	Louis R. Fechtig	Greenbrier	Jacob L. Bromwell, John Miller	396	52
	Greenbrier		Pendleton	Robert Boyd, T. Rice	308	32
	Greenbrier		Monroe	James Watts	275	12
	Greenbrier		New River	James Taylor, T. Beauchamp	467	44
	Greenbrier		Allegheny	Basil Barry, Edward Mathews	745	111
	Greenbrier		South Branch	James Moore	---	--
	Monongahela	Asa Shinn	Monongalia	Samuel Montgomery, Amos Barnes	480	22
	Monongahela		Harrison	John Connalley, P. Buckingham	704	2
	Monongahela		Preston	Thomas Jamison	---	--
	Pittsburgh	Thornton Fleming	Ohio Co.	Thomas Beaks, Richard Armstrong	632	91
	Pittsburgh		East Wheeling	George Irwin	300	--
	Pittsburgh		Short Creek	John Waterman	---	--
	Muskingum	Jacob Young	Little Kanawha	John Brown	400	24
	Kentucky	Alexander Cummins	Big Sandy River	Hezekiah Holland	415	20
	Kentucky		Guyandotte	Burwell Spurlock	361	14
				Total:	6,868	667

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1820

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
Baltimore	Potomac	Christopher Frye	Berkeley	James Paynter, William Pool	1,120	230
	Potomac		Jefferson	James McCann, C. B. Tippett	---	--
	Greenbrier	Louis R. Fechtig	Greenbrier	Samuel Montgomery, Amos Smith	645	81
	Greenbrier		Pendleton	James Watts, Mordecai Barry	510	81
	Greenbrier		Monroe	Jacob L. Bromwell, James Avis	408	14
	Greenbrier		New River	S. Kennerly, T. Rice, G. W. Morris	584	54
	Greenbrier		Allegheny	James Taylor, Edward Mathews	252	96
	Greenbrier		South Branch	Jesse Lee, James Sansom	239	33
	Greenbrier					
	Monongahela	Daniel Hitt	Ohio Co.	Thomas Beaks, William Bradeberry	507	58
	Monongahela		East Wheeling	Thomas Jamison	285	--
	Monongahela		Monongalia	Nathaniel B. Mills, John Haile	670	--
	Monongahela		Harrison	John Tanyhill, William Hank	705	--
	Monongahela		Preston	Bennett Dowler	145	--
	Monongahela		Short Creek	George Brown	132	15
	Muskingum	Jonathan Samper	Little Kanawha	Abel Robinson	258	--
	Kentucky	Alexander Cummins	Big Sandy River	Joseph Farrow	391	--
	Kentucky		Guyandotte	Burwell Spurlock	462	22
	Kentucky		Big Kanawha	Francis Wilson	---	--
				Total:	7,313	764

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1821

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
Baltimore	Winchester	Louis R. Fechtig	Berkeley	Joseph Frye, James Taylor	529	37
Baltimore	Winchester		Jefferson	James M. Hanson, Edward Oram	765	212
Baltimore	Winchester		Allegheny	James Reily, John Miller	647	134
Baltimore	Winchester		Pendleton	James Watts, Thomas M. Hudson	551	93
Baltimore	Winchester		South Branch	Robert Boyd, James Sansom	326	47
Baltimore	Monongahela	Daniel Hitt	Ohio Co.	David Stevens, French S. Evans	548	41
Baltimore	Monongahela		East Wheeling	Jesse Lee, Samuel Clark	260	--
Baltimore	Monongahela		Short Creek	Henry Furlong	270	26
Baltimore	Monongahela		Monongalia	Thomas Jamison, William Hank	763	45
Baltimore	Monongahela		Harrison	John Watson, Asby Pool	862	25
Baltimore	Monongahela		Lewis	Richard Armstrong, William Chapman	---	--
Baltimore	Monongahela		Preston	----------	205	1
Tennessee	Kanawha	John Brown	Middle Island	Milton Jameson	---	--
Tennessee	Kanawha		Big Kanawha	Francis Wilson, Samuel Hindman	600	15
Tennessee	Kanawha		Greenbrier	Samuel Montgomery, Amos Smith	---	--
Tennessee	Kanawha		Monroe	Jacob L. Bromwell, James Avis	---	--
Tennessee	Kanawha		Guyandotte	David Dyke, Josiah Browder	438	42
Tennessee	Kanawha		Big Sandy River	Isaac Reynolds, J. M. Reynolds Isaac Collord	335	45
Tennessee	Kanawha		Little Kanawha	Benjamin T. Crouch, Elisha Simmons	570	--
				Total:	7,669	763

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1822

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
	Winchester	Louis R. Fechtig	Berkeley	John Watson, James Sansom	678	94
	Winchester		Jefferson	James M. Hanson, John Miller	609	131
	Winchester		Pendleton	Richard Armstrong, John N. Stewart	525	96
	Winchester		South Branch	Robert Boyd, John L. Gibbons	489	73
	Winchester		Allegheny	James Riley, Charles B. Tippett	656	128
	Monongahela	James Paynter	Ohio Co.	David Stevens, George Brown	519	16
	Monongahela		East Wheeling	John Connalley, French S. Evans	376	6
			Short Creek	James Moore	276	18
	Monongahela		Monongalia	Thomas Beaks, Shadrach Chaney	598	52
	Monongahela		Harrison	Asby Pool, William H. Chapman	918	17
	Monongahela		Lewis	William Hank, John B. West	334	8
	Kanawha	John Brown	Middle Island	William McReynolds	314	11
	Kanawha		Little Kanawha	William Gumm, Josiah Browder	480	31
	Kanawha		Big Kanawha	Isaac Collord, Isaac Reynolds	345	65
	Kanawha		Greenbrier	Edward Stephenson, Harvey Sawyers	538	78
	Kanawha		Monroe	Elisha Simmons, Simon L. Booker	737	35
	Kanawha		Guyandotte	Francis Wilson, David Gray	486	32
	Kanawha		Big Sandy River	Daniel Tivis, Esau Simmons	---	--
				Total:	9,157	923

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1823

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
Baltimore	Winchester	Gerard Morgan	Berkeley	Jacob L. Bromwell, James Sansom	550	78
Baltimore	Winchester		Jefferson	Caleb Reynolds, Philip D. Lipsecum	559	157
Baltimore	Winchester		Pendleton	John Miller, John A. Gere	529	96
Baltimore	Winchester		South Branch	James Riley, John Howell	544	80
Baltimore	Winchester		Allegheny	Robert Boyd, William McDowell	680	115
Baltimore	Monongahela	Geo. Brown	Ohio Co.	Thomas Jameson, John Connalley	530	7
Baltimore	Monongahela		Wheeling	William Barnes	---	--
Baltimore	Monongahela		East Wheeling	Dennis B. Dorsey, John B. West	448	6
Baltimore	Monongahela		Short Creek	----------	241	22
Baltimore	Monongahela		Monongalia	Thomas Beaks, William H. Chapman	527	41
Baltimore	Monongahela		Harrison	Peregrine G. Buckingham, Dennis M. Parrott	774	16
Baltimore	Monongahela		Lewis	Shadrach Chaney, Samuel Ellis	395	10
Kentucky	Kanawha	John Brown	Middle Island	William Young	333	8
Kentucky	Kanawha		Little Kanawha	Peter Akers, Harvey Sawyers	485	31
Kentucky	Kanawha		Big Kanawha	Francis Wilson	332	30
Kentucky	Kanawha		Greenbrier	James Avis, Jonathan G. Tucker	603	81
Kentucky	Kanawha		Monroe	Amos Smith, Laban Hughey	662	26
Kentucky	Kanawha		Guyandotte	Burwell Spurlock, David Gray	397	36
Kentucky	Kanawha		Big Sandy River	Luke P. Allen	275	16
Kentucky	Kanawha		Nicholas	Isaac Reynolds	---	--
				Total:	8,863	856

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1824

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
	Winchester	Gerard Morgan	Berkeley	Jacob L. Bromwell, David Stevens	698	102
	Winchester		Jefferson	Caleb Reynolds, John Howell	511	138
	Winchester		Pendleton	James Watts, Samuel Bryson	528	98
	Winchester		South Branch	James Riley, Samuel Ellis	507	66
	Winchester		Allegheny	Robert Boyd, Charles M. Smith, John Miller	629	129
	Monongahela	George Brown	Ohio Co.	James Monroe, John Connalley	530	7
	Monongahela		East Wheeling	----------	589	16
	Monongahela		Short Creek	Thomas Beaks, Dennis M. Parrott	---	--
	Monongahela		Randolph	William Hank	---	--
	Monongahela		Wheeling St.	William Barnes	104	17
	Monongahela		Harrison	P. G. Buckingham, Ignatius H. Tackett	---	--
	Monongahela		Monongalia	John West, John Talbot	544	42
	Monongahela		Lewis	Shadrach Chaney, William S. Morgan	---	--
	Kanawha	John Brown	Middle Island	Isaac Reynolds	353	8
	Kanawha		Little Kanawha	John H. Power	458	28
	Kanawha		Greenbrier	Obediah Harber, James Ross	583	83
	Kanawha		Monroe	Amos Smith	550	24
	Kanawha		Big Kanawha	Joseph D. Farrow, William McComas	341	53
	Kanawha		Nicholas	Francis Wilson	174	2
	Kanawha		Guyandotte	Laban Hughey, Green Malone	358	26
				Total:	7,457	836

THE ORGANIZATION OF 1825

Conference	District	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Circuit Riders	Membership White	Membership Colored
	Carlisle	David Hitt	Berkeley	James Riley, Henry Smith	787	125
	Carlisle		Allegheny	William Butler, Jonathan Monroe	569	104
	Winchester	Gerard Morgan	Jefferson	James M. Hanson, J. L. Gibbons	542	163
	Winchester		Pendleton	James Watts, Harvey Sawyers	514	90
	Winchester		South Branch	John Miller, Nathaniel B. Mills	455	62
	Winchester		Monroe	Robert Barnes, Jacobb B. Crist	550	24
	Winchester		Greenbrier	Samuel Ellis, William McDowell	557	82
	Kanawha	John Brown	Guyandotte	William H. Collins	427	21
	Kanawha		Big Kanawha	James Smith	439	48
	Kanawha		Charleston	John H. Power	180	22
	Kanawha		Nicholas	John W. Kennedy	181	2
	Kanawha		Logan	Henry S. Fernandes	248	12
	Pittsburgh	Asa Shinn	Little Kanawha	George Holmes	631	13
			Middle Island	David Merryman	353	8
	Monongahela	Geo. Brown	Ohio Co.	Archibald McElroy, Geo. W. Robinson	530	7
	Monongahela		Monongalia	Samuel Brockunier, N. Calendar	544	42
	Monongahela		Randolph	Asa Pool	213	10
	Monongahela		Lewis	William S. Morgan	374	9
	Monongahela		Harrison	Isaac Reynolds	875	11
	Monongahela		Clarksburg	Thomas N. Hudson	78	--
	Monongahela		Short Creek	John West, Jonathan Holt	542	11
	Monongahela		Wheeling	John Waterman	104	17
				Total:	9,639	883

Data Relating To Circuits Formed In West Virginia In 1825, And Prior Thereto

Twenty-seven circuits had been formed in West Virginia prior to the year 1825, each with practically indefinite boundaries. They were as follows:

Berkeley Circuit, created in 1778 by a conference convened at Lewisburg, Virginia, May 19th of that year; derived its name from Berkeley County, which had been created by the Virginia Assembly, six years before.

Allegheny Circuit, created in 1783 by a conference convened at Ellis's Preaching House, in Virginia, May 6th that year; included the Valley of Greenbrier River and settlements in the mountains to the eastward thereof.

Greenbrier Circuit, created in 1787, from Allegheny Circuit. At the time it was formed it embraced within its limits all of the present counties of Greenbrier, Pocahontas, and Monroe, and stretched away south of New River, into what is now Giles County, Virginia.

Clarksburg Circuit, created in 1787, in the wilderness, its boundaries being practically undefined. It disappeared from the Minutes in 1807 when its territory was divided between the new circuits of Monongalia, formed the preceding year, and Randolph restored at the same time. It does not reappear therein until 1825.

Ohio Circuit, created in 1787, was the first Methodist unit of administration bordering on the Ohio River. It stretched away from Grave Creek, now Moundsville, West Virginia, to the site of the present city of Pittsburgh.

Randolph Circuit, created in 1790, and formed in part from Clarksburg Circuit; it was extinguished in 1792; was restored in 1806, and continued until 1816, when Harrison Circuit was formed in large part from it, and the residue thereof, attached to Monongalia Circuit.

Big Kanawha Circuit, created in 1790 by conference assembled at Leesburg, Virginia, that year; disappeared from the Minutes in 1791, and did not reappear for twenty-nine years, or until 1820, when it was restored by the Ohio Conference.

Pendleton Circuit, created in 1794, in part from Allegheny Circuit; it occupied all the upper portion of the Valley of the South Branch of the Potomac.

Little Kanawha Circuit, created in 1799, and at that time embraced the settlement along the Ohio River from Williamstown to Belleville, and

extended up the Little Kanawha Valley so as to include the settlements, in the vicinity of the present town of Elizabeth.

GUYANDOTTE CIRCUIT, created by the old Western Conference in 1804; at that time it included the settlement for several miles up and down the Ohio, and as far up the Guyandotte Valley as the homes of white men extended.

MONROE CIRCUIT, created in 1805, by the Baltimore Conference, from the Southern part of Greenbrier Circuit, and included all the present county of Monroe and extended southward over Peters Mountain into what the next year becme Giles County, in Virginia.

MONONGALIA CIRCUIT, created by the Baltimore Conference in 1806, and formed in part from the old Clarksburg Circuit, which as stated disappeared from the Minutes this year.

NEW RIVER CIRCUIT, created by the Baltimore Conference in 1808, from the western parts of Greenbrier and Monroe Circuits. It lay on the eastern side of New River, and was sometimes mentioned as East New River Conference.

EAST WHEELING CIRCUIT, created by the Baltimore Conference from the eastern part of Ohio Circuit; and was made to include the settlements on the waters of Wheeling, Big and Little Grave Creeks.

BIG SANDY RIVER CIRCUIT, created in 1810, by the Old Western Conference, and was made to include the settlements along the lower Big Sandy River, and in the valleys of the Twelve-Pole and Four-Pole Rivers.

HAMPSHIRE CIRCUIT, created in 1813 by the Baltimore Conference; it embraced the central portion of the South Branch Valley. The next year its name was changed from Hampshire to Moorefield, and was the following year merged into the Allegheny Circuit.

HARRISON CIRCUIT, created in 1816, by the Baltimore Conference, and made to include Harrison County, together with a large part of the present County of Marion, the Monongahela River apparently being the boundary between it and Monongalia Circuit.

SOUTH BRANCH CIRCUIT, created in 1819, by the Baltimore Conference, and made to include the lower portion of the Valley of the South Branch, with the settlements along Little and Big Capon rivers.

PRESTON COUNTY CIRCUIT, created in 1819, by the Baltimore Conference; it embraced the then new county of Preston; but disappeared from the Minutes in 1822.

SHORT CREEK CIRCUIT, created in 1819, from the Ohio Circuit, and made to include the Valley of Short Creek, and the settlements in the vicinity of West Liberty in Ohio County.

JEFFERSON CIRCUIT, created in 1820, by the Baltimore Conference, from old Berkeley Circuit; it derived its name from Jefferson County in which it lay.

MIDDLE ISLAND CREEK, created in 1820, by the Baltimore Conference and included the settlements along the Ohio River between Williamstown and Sistersville, and thence in the valley of Middle Island Creek, extending into Tyler and Doddridge Counties.

LEWIS CIRCUIT, created in 1821, by the Baltimore Conference, being formed in part from Harrison Circuit; it included all the upper waters of the West Fork of the Monongahela, and extended into what became Upshur County.

NICHOLAS CIRCUIT, created in 1823, by the Kentucky Conference, its boundaries being practically the same as those of the then new county of Nicholas.

WHEELING CIRCUIT, created from the Ohio Conference, and made to embrace the limits of the town as it was at that time.

LOGAN CIRCUIT, created in 1825, by the Ohio Conference; it derived its name from that of Logan County, and was made to embrace the Upper Valley of the Guyandotte River.

CHARLESTON DISTRICT, created in 1825, by the Ohio Conference; and was made to include the settlements on the Great Kanawha, both above and below the mouth of Elk River, and up that river for many miles.

LOOKING BACKWARD—AN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Now that we have definitely arranged the material from which we may construct an ecclesiastical map of Methodism of West Virginia, as it was in the first quarter of the last century, it will be well, yea, profitable for us to endeavor to peer into the obscurity of the past, that we may gather some of the scattered fragments of the time of which we write. The annals of these years are replete with events and incidents which illustrate the history of Methodism in West Virginia, which in the first quarter of the last century, begins to assume historic shape. By thus gathering this material and arranging it over a definite field we come to witness the spectacle of the laying of the broad and permanent foundations, right here in West Virginia, of the ecclesiastic and historic structure upon which American Methodism rests.

THE CHIEF ACTOR—THE MOST POTENT FACTOR OF IT ALL

We survey the field and at once behold the most potent factor in it. This was the *circuit rider;* in other words, *Saddle-Bags-Man.* Who shall tell or write the story of his life and life work? In imagination we can see him wending his way along a bridlepath which threads the wilderness waste of the vast extent of his circuit, the circuit of which he is the Saddle-Bags-Man. Clad in the course homespun of that day, he journeys on. To him roads and footways were useless things; he "blazed" out his own course. No way was too bad for him; if his horse could not carry him, he led. If night and the cabin did not come together, he spent the hours of darkness alone in the wilderness, which, with him was no uncommon occurrence. With his saddle-bags for a pillow, his blanket, if he had one, for a bed, the heavens overhead for a covering, and the God of Israel for his defense, he slept; and then traveled on toward his destination, and each time he was heard from he was further on his journey than before. What wonderful vigor he possessed! it was almost superhuman. He did not seem to require food and rest as other men; no day's journey was long enough to tire him; and no fare too poor for him to live upon. Subsisting on bear meat, venison, and wild turkey; traveling over lonely mountains and through solitary valleys, he labored on, exposed as he was to all the dangers of heat and cold, sleeping on the ground in the darkling forest, or in huts before the fire, on a deer or bear-skin bed, amid all these and a thousand other privations, he pressed on after the lost sheep in the wilderness.

PHYSICAL LABORERS

Then too, the circuit riders stopped and performed physical labor, when necessary, to promote the interest of the Kingdom which they represented. The first religious meeting on the lower side of the mouth of the Little Kanawha River was held in 1805, by Charles P. Light, the circuit rider on the Little Kanawha Circuit, assisted by Jacob

Young, a boy-missionary sent by the old Western Conference to introduce Methodism into Marietta, Ohio, then the new settlement at the mouth of Muskingum River.

Neal's blockhouse had fallen into decay, and there was no other building at the mouth of the Little Kanawha in which a meeting could be held; so these two circuit riders, with their own hands grubbed the underbrush and cleaned the land, nearly an acre in extent, on which they began and conducted protracted meetings of great interest. Colonel Hugh Phelps, then the most prominent man in Wood County, attended all the time with his family, and was deeply affected under their work. Then too, there were present the Creels, Tavenners, Kincheloes and other prominent pioneer people, and at these meetings was laid the foundation upon which much of the Methodism of the city of Parkersburg and of the Little Kanawha Valley has since rested.

THEY WERE HEROIC MEN

Then too, they were heroic men in more ways than one. They would have order, if they had to fight for it. In the summer of 1810 a great "woods meeting" was in progress in the valley of Short Creek in Ohio County. Jacob Young and John West were the circuit riders. The "rowdies," as they were then called, came and fixed their tents on the neighboring hillsides, in which they sold whiskey, brandy, and cider, thereby causing much confusion. Jacob Young, who appears to have been the "fighting Parson," visited these tents one evening and pleaded with the parties therein to desist from the annoyance in which they were engaged; but this availed nothing. The next morning, accompanied by a strong man, and with a sledge-hammer, secured at a neighboring blacksmith-shop, in hand, Young made the rounds of the tents again, and without exchange of words, knocked in the heads of all casks found therein, and poured their contents on the ground. Not at that meeting, nor at another meeting, in that vicinity, was there for years to come any rowdyism again manifested.

Results Achieved By These Circuit Riders

When we consider how extended was the territory comprised in these early West Virginia Circuits; the absence of suitable places for worship; the severe labor, the privations, and exposures to which these saddle-bags-men were subjected; and then think of the successful organization of societies, the rapid increase of members, the zeal and devotion of the people through the instrumentality of these same saddle-bags-men, we realize that the results are simply wonderful. Great discouragement came, but they were followed by great revivals just in time to raise the drooping spirits of these toilers, and time gave fresh impulse to activities which were to yield greater results. Who can fully contemplate all this and fully recognize in it the guiding hand of Providence in the work here and among these hills and valleys of West Virginia, in the formation of a Church that was to prove to be one of the mightiest forces in the extension of Christ's Kingdom over the whole earth. I undertake to say that no other set or body of men, ever did more, or so much, as did these saddle-bags-men, to found a Christian Civilization in this trans-Allegheny region. The saddle-bags, a characteristic emblem of their pioneer work, should be inscribed on the escutcheon of Methodism, ever to be kept in mind by Methodist people as long as there is a frontier to Christianity on this planet.

The Presiding Elder

A factor more potent in the promotion of this pioneer work in the wilderness than the circuit rider, was the presiding elder. In this noble work he lead the way and every circuit rider cheerfully followed. One has to make but a brief examination of the work of that day to learn how careful these *superintendents* were to preserve high ideals of purity and integrity. They assisted the conference in its annual examination of the character of these preachers, and saw that it was conducted honestly, and with thoroughness and impartiality. Men proving themselves morally unfit for their high office were promptly tried and

expelled. Applicants for admission on trial were held back until every question of doubt was settled in their favor. Errors in temper, imprudence of conduct, or faulty administration were rebuked. The preachers were held to strict account for negligence or failure in their work; and, if found to be unadapted to it, were not located. Often the presiding elder continued a revival service all night, and the circuit rider had to remain at the altar with him, or be declared a ministerial drone and a nuisance in the Church of God.

THE QUARTERLY MEETING

The Quarterly Meeting was an occasion of vast importance, because it was a revival meeting as well as one of business. It was almost always marked by signal displays of Divine Power. Because of the interest which attached to it, the people gathered from a distance of thirty or forty miles, and returned to their homes refreshed and strengthened as from a "feast of fat things, of wines on the lees well refined." It was common for the meeting to begin on Friday and continue far into the next week or even longer. The Elder did the preaching, but ministers and people were happily blended together, and each felt willing to bear the other's burden and so fulfill the law. It was a striking scene to witness on one of these occasions the breaking up of one of the night meetings. The people, though coming from a distance, had no way of returning in the darkness of their homes, but by dim paths or traces, many of which had been formed by the tread of wild animals. To remedy this, or rather to aid them on their way, they obtained from the hills the rich pine which they split to splinters, then bound a handful of them together, thus forming the "pine-torch," which was carried to the meeting, then lighted when starting home. In every direction the lights might be seen like so many meteors, bounding amid the thick forest, and gilding foliage of the loftiest trees, while the air would often be made vocal with the people's songs of rejoicing and praise. Such were the Quarterly Meetings in the first quarter of the last century.

THE CAMP-MEETING

The period, 1800 to 1825, was distinctively the era of the camp-meeting, the most important of all the Methodist meetings of that day. For many years there were in the West Virginia wilderness no "meeting houses" or "preaching houses," as they were then called, and the itinerant occupied the cabins of the pioneers for this purpose—the cabins, regularly used for this purpose being designated simply as "preaching-places." Soon however, as the population increased, the persons who resided in these preaching-places found themselves straitened for room in which to accommodate the growing congregations; and in the summer seasons, the people "took to the woods," and there began the worship of God in the groves which were His first temples. Such was the origin of the camp-meetings in West Virginia. The sites on which they were held were called "camp-grounds" and some of them were well-known spots for a hundred years. To them went the people—vast numbers of them—with provisions for themselves and forage for their horses, and erected sheds or tents and there continued often for many days and nights in the exercises of singing, praying and preaching. Speedily this became one among the great means of grace with which the Methodist Church was blessed. They were a peculiar blessing to the people situated as those on the frontier were. By them, their minds were for days taken off the various temporal concerns, and their hearts became the temples of the great God. As interest increased the novelty of the meetings excited the curiosity of many and the attendance increased from day to day. The effect upon the minds of the people was truly wonderful. Christians were filled with hope; were troubled with uneasy sensations; others were struck with solemn awe, whilst curiosity was raised to the highest degree. Indeed such was the commotion, that every section of the community appeared to have its whole attention arrested. Whole settlements and neighborhoods—indeed whole counties—would appear to be vacated, and to

such an extent was this true, that it was only here and there that a solitary house would contain a housekeeper; the young, the middle-aged, and the old as well—all having pressed through every difficulty and having overcome every hindrance to get to the *Camp-Meeting*. A writer who attended one of these camp-meetings in the year 1801—the first in the period to which this paper relates—thus describes it:

It exceeds anything I ever saw or heard of. The exercises begin with a sermon, at the close of which there would be an universal out-cry; some bursting forth into loud ejaculations of prayer, or thanksgiving for the truth. Others breaking out in emphatical sentences of exhortations; others flying to their careless friends, with tears of compassion, beseeching them to turn to the Lord. Some struck with terror and hastening through the crowd to make their escape; or pulling away from their relations; others trembling, weeping, crying out for mercy; some fainting and swooning away until every appearance of life was gone, and the extremities of the body assumed the coldness of death. Others surrounding them with melodious songs or fervent prayer for their happiness and conversion; others collecting into groups around this varied scene, contending with arguments for and against the work. This scene frequently continued without intermission for days and nights together.

The Monongahela Valley was a famous camp-meeting region; for years, the lowest number of these held on the Monongahela District in any one year was eight; and the largest, eleven. Likewise many such were annually held in the upper Potomac Region, and throughout the Greenbrier Country. They were, in fact, the greatest of all revival meetings—of feasting, parade and show. Aged men who lived on far beyond the period of which we write, testified that they were owned of God, by the advance of his children in scriptural holiness and the conversion of sinners in great numbers, from the error of their ways. The day of judgment alone can disclose the amount of good that was done at these camp-meetings among the hills and valleys of West Virginia.

THE LOCAL PREACHERS

We have noticed the *itinerant*, the *circuit rider*, the *saddle-bags-man*, the *quarterly meeting*, and the *camp-*

meeting; but we must not forget that an important factor in the planting of Methodism in this trans-Allegheny wilderness, was the local preachers who reared their cabins in the valleys of the tributaries of the Upper Potomac, the Monongahela, and the Greenbrier, and introduced Methodism into these regions. By their labors little classes were formed, and then the itinerant created his circuit with its societies. Of the local preachers many of them left their names on the early meeting-houses due to the fact that they were largely instrumental in their erection. Indeed many of these names survive to this day, attached to modern structures which have superceded them. The importance of these men will be fully appreciated when it is known that nearly all of the circuit riders were local preachers before they entered the itinerancy, and when they retired from it, they became local preachers again.

THE LAYMEN OF THAT DAY

What noble, devoted, Christian men were the laymen of that day. Their cabins were the lodging and preaching places of the itinerants; and they were the men who felled the trees and cut the logs used in the erection of the old-time log churches—first in West Virginia. Then, too, there was no charity which their hands neglected. An instance or two of this may be given.

In the year of 1805, the old Western Conference sent a young man named Jacob Young as a missionary to look after Methodist interests in the then new town of Marietta, Ohio. Scarcely had he arrived there when he fell ill of typhoid fever and was confined to a room for many weeks, for several of which he was delirious. On his recovery he was destitute of money and nearly so of shoes and clothing. The physician presented his bill which was $27.00, and insisted upon payment. The boy preacher told him of his destitute condition, but told him that he would pay the bill if ever able. He then attempted to preach again and to serve a little congregation outside the town. A West Virginia layman, Reece Wolfe, residing near the mouth of

Little Kanawha River, loaded a large canoe or bateau with corn, wheat, rye, oats and potatoes, and rowed or polled it all the way—twelve miles—up the Ohio to Marietta, where he sold the cargo for about $30.00. Of this he paid $27.00 to the physician, and left the remainder for the young preacher at the place where he stopped when in town.

Another instance of the charity of these early West Virginia laymen must suffice to illustrate their character.

In 1820, George Brown of the Baltimore Conference, traveled the Ohio Circuit; his work being largely in the town of Wheeling and on Short Creek. While preaching at the latter appointment, on Christmas day, of that year, his horse fell dead on the spot where he had hitched him. This fact was reported to him as soon as the service ended, and he regretted the loss very much for he was a noble animal. But the laymen gathered about him and bade him be of good cheer, for he should have another horse; and before he left the place they then and there bought and paid for a horse, every way equal to the one he had lost and presented it to him. As we learn of this we wonder what effect it had upon his sermon that evening..

Ezekiel Dimmitt

Not only did these early laymen promote the interests of Methodism in West Virginia, but they were most potent factors in planting it west of the Ohio, and even beyond the Mississippi. Ezekiel Dimmitt was a native and resident of Berkeley County, who united with the church under the preaching of Joshua Wells, an itinerant on Berkeley Circuit. Filled with religious and patriotic ardor he removed in 1797, to the old Northwestern Territory, and built his cabin on the east fork of the Little Miami, on or near the site of Batavia, now in the state of Ohio. Here his home was long a lodging and preaching place for the itinerants who visited that region. He became a powerful coadjuter of theirs, and did so much for the promotion of Methodism that Barker in his *History of Methodism* when speaking

of him says, "He deserves to rank among the founders of Methodism in that State."

William Cherrington

At the close of the Revolution, William Cherrington was residing in the Greenbrier Valley. Here he welcomed the first itinerant who visited that region; and when in 1783, Greenbrier Circuit was formed by the Baltimore Conference, his home became the resting place for the itinerant and his house a preaching-place on that circuit. Later in life, he removed to Ohio and settled in the new county of Gallia, when his new home became noted in the early annals of Methodism. There he exerted a mighty influence for good; and there he founded the Cherrington family.

A YEAR OF GLOOM IN WEST VIRGINIA

The year of 1816, was one of gloom for the Methodists of West Virginia. March 4, of that year, Bishop Francis Asbury died at the home of George Arnold, in Spottsylvania County, Virginia; his death was mourned throughout the whole Methodist world, but nowhere more than here in West Virginia. To the Methodist people here he had been long a familiar and beloved character; from the year 1781 to 1815, inclusive, he had visited therein thirty-one times in as many years. He had preached at Harpers Ferry, Shepherdstown, Charles Town, Martinsburg, Berkeley Springs, and in the home of John J. Jacob on the South Branch of the Potomac; had held two conferences in Greenbrier County; had preached at the Old Sweet Springs; at the "Sinks" in Monroe County; at the house of Edward Keenan nearby; at old Rehobeth Church, at Lewisburg; at the Little Levels; at Wilson's Fork, on Tygart's Valley River, at Clarksburg; at Morgantown; in the Court House at Wellsburg; at West Liberty; at the house of Captain John Beck in that vicinity; at the Stone Chapel on Short Creek, and in the Court House at Wheeling. Thus was he known to both the itinerancy and the laity of West Virginia with whom he had so long and so often prayed, sung

and preached. They had often broken bread with him and had him sing—not say grace—while they stood around the table with him. The grace he sang was:

> Be present at our table Lord,
> Be here and everywhere adored;
> Thy people bless and grant that we
> May feast in Paradise with Thee.

So it was that these Methodists of West Virginia sincerely mourned his departure, for they realized that he then, and would thereafter, stand at the head of the leading characters of American ecclesiastical history, and that no other man had done more than he for Christianity in the Western Hemisphere. His funeral was preached by every presiding elder and itinerant, in West Virginia, within a few weeks after his death.

THE SLAVERY QUESTION

The question of slavery was one that ever disturbed the Methodist Church, and the agitation extended to Wheeling in 1819. That year Rev. John Waterman, the circuit rider on the Ohio Circuit, preached in Wheeling, a sermon against the institution of slavery. This aroused the wrath of some of the leading men of that place, and Waterman was driven out of Wheeling by a mob, headed by Noah Zane, a wealthy citizen and slave owner; and James Spriggs, a prominent lawyer. Thus, for several months the Methodists had no preaching in the town; but in 1820 the Baltimore Conference sent a young man, George Brown, to the Wheeling work. In his most valuable work, *Recollections of Itinerant Life,* he says of his experiences there:

> On my first Sunday in Wheeling, after preaching morning and evening, I announced preaching for Thursday night; and there was a large congregation for a week night. Among the rest came Noah Zane, and, wrapped in a large blue cloak, he took his seat among the ladies, and paid very strict attention, while I discussed the great question of moral justice, and brought it home to the conscience as clearly as I could. When the meeting was dismissed, Zane, whom I had never seen before, went out and waited at the door for me. At last he sent a man to tell me

he wished me to go home with him. I went to the door and declined, saying I had engaged myself another way. But he would take no denial; said he had business with me, and I must go to his house that night. I felt some reluctance, knowing how he had used Waterman; but got myself released from my other engagement, and went with him, wondering, as we walked arm in arm together, what business he could have with me. Finally, he introduced Waterman's case; said he was a man of splendid talents, and that he and Spriggs had greatly misused him, and that he had been ashamed of his part in the transaction ever since. 'But,' said he, 'Brown, while you discussed that question of moral justice tonight, I resolved that I would free two negroes before I sleep, and my business with you is to have you sign their free papers as a witness. On last Thursday, I sold two colored women for fourteen hundred dollars, to go to the South, and next Monday morning they were to have been delivered to the purchaser. I know I am a wicked man; but still I have a conscience. I can never put that money into my pocket. I must cancel the transaction, and I will do it this night before I sleep. Your sermon led me to change my mind, and I want you to witness their emancipation.' This is the substance of what he said, and, as nearly as I can recollect, the very words. After introducing me to his wife, we went into the library-room to look at his books. His library was large, and Mr. Zane took apparent delight in showing his books and in discussing the merits of various authors. At last he said, 'It is growing late; the family have all retired, and we can't have prayers tonight, as is our custom when preachers are with us. We will have prayers in the morning, and in the morning, too, I will have the emancipation papers ready for you to sign as witness.' So saying, he took a light and conducted me to my sleeping room. When he left me I began to fear that, as he had not freed the slaves before he slept, he might cool off against morning, and not free them at all.

But in the morning early I found Mr. Zane in the library, with the papers all ready, and I put my name to them as witness. He then called the two emancipated women, and told that that for disobedience to their mistress he had, on last Thursday, sold them to a Southern trader, to be delivered to him on next Monday morning. There he paused and the women gave signs of alarm. 'But,' said he, pointing to me, 'this is Mr. Brown, and I want you to remember him. On hearing him preach, last night, I changed my mind, and determined to set you both free, and I want you to remember him as long as you live, and that you owe your liberty to him.' He then gave each of them a paper of freedom and twenty-five dollars in silver, and advised them to go immediately to Ohio, and never to come within fifty miles of him, as they could not retain their freedom in Virginia. The family were then called in, and we had morning worship, at which time the Divine blessing was invoked on Mr. Zane and his family, but especially on the colored women just now emancipated, and ordered to go forth into the world and do for themselves.

THE HONORED DEAD WHO SLEEP IN FORGOTTEN GRAVES

The great Roman lyric poet tells us that the names of the heroes who flourished before the days of Agamemnon perished for want of a recording pen. A similar declaration might be almost as truthfully made regarding the heroes of Methodism who perished in the wilds of Western Virginia in the first fifty years of its existence, for some of them fell at their posts, leaving behind them absolutely no record save in the hearts of those among whom they labored, and that has perished long ago. Of such were the following:

GEORGE BURNETT, a native of Virginia, born in Pittslyvania County, December 8, 1789. Early in life "he fled for refuge to lay hold on the hope which was set before him," and soon thereafter he "felt that a dispensation of the gospel was committed to him." Accordingly, he entered the Virginia Conference in 1817, and after two appointments elsewhere was sent to New River Circuit in 1819. September 11th of that year, he arrived at the house of a friend, where he ate dinner and was quite cheerful, but a few hours later he was attacked with a chill, followed by delirium, loss of speech, and then death. Thus fell, in his thirtieth year, George Burnett, in the wilds of the New River Region, where his dust reposes in a long forgotten grave.

DAVID GRAY, a native of New Jersey, born in 1791. Early in life he joined the Methodist Church, and soon therafter, removed to the West and settled at Maysville, Kentucky, where he became a local preacher. In 1819, he entered the traveling connection and became a member of the Kentucky Conference, organized in 1820. In 1821, he was appointed to Guyandotte Circuit, to which he was reappointed in 1822. While laboring therein he was stricken in December of that year. Suffering intensely from an inflamatory disease, he lingered on until May 21, 1823, when he passed from among the living, aged thirty-two years. His memory was long kept green by those who knew him, but his grave is long forgotten.

NATHAN LODGE was born in Loudoun County, Virginia, August 26, 1788; and in childhood was taken by his parents to Concord, Pennsylvania, where in early manhood, he embraced the only hope of eternal life. He was received into the traveling connection of the Baltimore Conference March 17, 1810, and was sent to Allegheny Circuit—formerly (may be afterwards) Moorefield Circuit — in Hardy County. He was presiding elder in Winchester District in 1814; and in 1815, traveled Berkeley Circuit, where on the 27th of November, about ten o'clock in the morning, he finished his course, changing his cross for the crown. His great work was more manifest in the last year of his life, where, on Berkeley Circuit he labored on in sight of eternity to the end. His last sermon was at the funeral of a member of his congregation, at Shepherdstown. At its close he said: "Let us pray once more for the people of Shepherdstown." It was his last prayer in public. A hearer said: "Lodge is ready, and he will soon be gone." Soon thereafter there was passed to his congregation the solemn announcement, *"Lodge is dead,"* and following it were many weeping hearts. He was buried in Jefferson County. It is said no one living knows the spot.

To these names others might be added had we space in this paper.

CLOSING OBSERVATION

Thus it was as elsewhere, Methodism has been a great missionary and evangelistic system. The central idea of it all has been, and now is, to reach the lowly, the ignorant, and the poor, as well as the intelligent and the rich. Her heralds have ever felt it a pleasure to visit the hovels, garrets, and slums in order to minister to the temporal and spiritual needs of the poor and unfortunate. In the ranks stood the itinerants, presiding elders, local preachers, and laymen, who toiled and labored a hundred years ago in this West Virginia wildness and as we contemplate the work they achieved, we are ready to exclaim in astonishment and gratitude; "What hath God wrought!"

West Virginia Forty-Niners

By C. H. Ambler

The number of West Virginia Forty-niners cannot be determined, but it must have been considerable. For years prior to 1849 present West Virginia was the natal land from which immigrants went into the regions beyond, even the Trans-Mississippi West, with more or less regularity and in large numbers.[1] Among those sojourning in Arkansas and Texas was the later General Isaac Harding Duval of Brooke County, who in 1849 led one of the first companies of emigrants to reach California over the North Texas-Gila River Route.[2] There were doubtless other West Virginians who reached El Dorado by that and other approaches.[3]

Among the latter was Benjamin Hoffman of Shepherdstown in present West Virginia, who on March 27, 1849, as a member of a company of eighty men, left Charles Town, Jefferson County, and arrived at Sacramento, California, in September of that year. At the outset of this journey Hoffman "determined . . . to make a note of each day's travels, in this little book (his *Diary*)."[4] In this determination he was moved by the conviction that his "little book" might make interesting reading for future generations. Enamored of this idea and the fatalism of the day, he expressed the hope that, in case he fell "by the way, . . .

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[1] This migration continued until well after the Civil War. Among those going west at that time were many Methodists who thus expressed their disapproval of the Democratic regime which began in West Virginia in 1870 and continued during a quarter century.

[2] General Duval's *Memoirs* give an account of life in Arkansas and Texas from 1838 to 1849.

[3] James A. Payne, a Kanawha steamboat captain, made the overland journey to California and recorded his experiences in a memoir entitled "Saint Louis to San Francisco . . . an account of a Journey across the Plains in 1850." See *Pacific Historical Review*, Vol. IX, p. 445.

[4] As "prepared" by T. J. Hoffman, son of Benjamin Hoffman, this *Diary* was published in the Shepherdstown *Register* (Weekly, Shepherdstown, West Virginia) for January 31—February 4, 1901. This source was supplemented by *Recollections of a Forty-niner* by Edward W. McIlhany, a member of the company. This work is a 212 page volume published in Kansas City, Missouri (1908). It deals almost entirely with life and conditions in California.

someone more fortunate" would complete and preserve his record, and that it would "eventually" reach the land of his birth.

After little more than a year in California, in which he recorded no items in his *Diary,* Hoffman suffered from nostalgia. He was then planning, "ere many months shall have passed away," to return to Virginia, there to live and die. His decision not again to attempt an overland journey of more than 2,000 miles,[5] is significant. Although it would take him "many miles around," he hoped to return instead by "some good ship," which might indicate also that he had been more prosperous than his *Diary* reveals.

It was at that time, October 15, 1850, that Hoffman made a final entry in his *Diary* and expressed another wish regarding it. In case the Ruler of the Universe decreed that he "should never reach his native State," he requested "whosoever he or she may be into whose hands this little book may fall, . . . to be kind enough to send it to the postmaster at Shepherdstown, Jefferson County, (West) Virginia." The remaining space was then used to append the names of those of his company "who survived the perils and hardships of that terrible journey across the continent."[6]

Before leaving Jefferson County the group of which Hoffman was a member constituted itself a joint stock

[5] As stated by Hoffman in his *Diary*, his company traveled a total of 2,105 miles.

[6] Not including officers, the company was made up of the following persons:

Allen, James R.
Barley, Richard
Bender, Jacob
Blakemore, R. M.
Boley, John L.
Bowers, John Wm.
Bradley, Thornton C.
Burrell, Walter J.
Clevenger, Asa
Cockrell, Daniel
Comegys, Geo. W.
Conway, Hugh
Crebs, James S.
Cunningham, Charles
Cunningham, George
Cunningham, James
Daughtery, Enos
Davidson, James
Davidson, Samuel
Davis, Joseph C.
Donnelly, Daniel
Duke, F. W.
Engle, Jacob H.
Engle, Joseph
Fagan, Daniel
Ferrell, Milton
Gallaher, John
Garnhart, John H.
Geiger, Vincent E.
Gittings, Charles F.
Harrison, Ham. C.
Hayden, Charles
Hoffman, Benj.
Hopper, Edward
Hubbert, Noble T.
Humphrey, J. Thomas
Humphreys, Dr. J. D.
Locke, Elisha
Lupton, John M.
Mackaran, Wm. H.
Manning, Jas. M.
Marmaduke, A. J.
McCurdy, James
McIlhany, Edward W.
Miller, Andrew R.
Miller, Morgan
Milton, W. Taliaferro
Moore, James H.
Moore, John, Jr.
Moore, Henry H.
Moore, Thomas C.
Murphy, John H.
Purcell, John
Riely, Edwin A.
Rissler, Wm.
Rohrer, Elisha
Roland, John T.
Seevers, Benj. F.
Simpson, Francis R.
Showman, P. B.
Showers, John S.
Slagle, Charles S.
Strider, Isaac Keys
Strider, Jesse A.
Stonebraker, G. C.
Tavener, Newton
Thomas, Charles G.
Wagner, Andrew
Walpert, John C.
Washington, Lawrence F.
Washington, Thomas
Young, Joseph C.

company, into the treasury of which each of the eighty members paid $300. Benjamin F. Washington was elected president, and Edward M. Asquith was elected treasurer. Other elected officers were Robert H. Keeling, Smith Crane, and Joseph E. N. Lewis, first, second, and third commanders, respectively; Nathaniel (Nat) Seevers, quartermaster; J. Harrison Kelly, secretary; and Dr. Wake Bryarly of Baltimore, Maryland, surgeon. Despite much quarreling along the way and the death en route of five members,[7] the company held together under this arrangement until it reached Sacramento. There it disbanded and divided the unexpended funds equally among the remaining members.

Soon thereafter "lots of our boys," including Hoffman were "dead broke." As a consequence they "got together . . . in small parties" of six each and began earnestly to hunt for gold. Of those in Hoffman's party, which had sub-divided into two equal groups, Joseph McCurdy "took sick and died the first winter" and William Rissler "got sick and went to San Francisco." This left Hoffman to work his claim alone, in which he met with "fair success."

As Hoffman failed to record regularly the happenings of the first six weeks of the journey, they will be summarized as part of this introduction to his more or less complete daily records of the remaining weeks. These will be given verbatim, except the necessary editing to indicate the sequence of events.

After three days, the company on March 30 reached Pittsburgh, where on the following day, it took the "Niagara" for Cincinnati. After a night there, it continued by steamboat and arrived at St. Louis, April 7. "Having taken in" that city for three days, the company continued by way of Missouri River. On April 19 it "encamped" at St. Joseph, more familiarly known as "St. Joe," the "real starting

[7] These persons were Thomas F. Washington, Joseph C Young, W. Taliaferro Milton, James Davidson, and Newton Tavener.

point," where it got the necessary supplies and rest for an "earnest resumption of the journey."[8]

After an eighteen day "layover" the company on May 7 pitched its tents "on the south side of the Missouri River, in Indian Territory." There it remained for three days, at the end of which it made "a general move for the Territory of California."[9] Saturday, May 12, it passed "the Indian missionary agency,"[10] where, because of trouble among the men, they were on the point of "breaking up." This was prevented through the influence of "Mr. Smith," the guide. May 28, they arrived at Fort Kearney in Nebraska Territory,[11] about 320 miles from St. Joe.

Here, following a great deal of quarreling and "getting along in the roughest manner imaginable," the luggage load of the company was lightened. This was accomplished at "great sacrifice," but it was necessary in order to expedite the advance. Thus relieved, the company came on June 2 to a point on Platte River about 400 miles from St. Joe, where

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[8] For most Forty-niners going by the "California Trail," Fort Kearney, established in 1848 by W. P. Woodbury, was the "real starting point." It was used as an emigrant stopping place until 1871. *Dictionary of American History*, Vol. III, p. 200. For still others, the "real starting point" was Independence, Missouri; for others it was Fort Leavenworth in present Kansas; and for still others it was Council Bluffs in present Iowa.

[9] From St. Joseph the Virginia company followed the then popular Oregon Trail to Fort Kearney in Nebraska Territory at the southern point of the great bend in the Platte River, and continued thence over the same route to the mouth of Raft River in present Idaho near Pocatello. Intermediate stretches lay along the Platte over present U. S. 30 to North Platte, home of the late William Cody, better known as "Buffalo Bill." Leaving present U. S. 30 at or near North Platte, the company coursed North Platte River on the south side through a picturesque region of western Nebraska into present Wyoming. Thence the route continued along the North Platte through Fort Laramie, Old La Bonti Stage Station, and Caspar to the headwaters of that stream. By way of mountain passes to the northeast of present Pathfinder Reservoir it reached the headwaters of Stillwater River which it followed by Independence Rock and through Devil's Gate to or near South Pass, the "gateway to Oregon."

Instead of following the Oregon Trail across Green River in a southwestward direction to Fort Bridger at a point on present U. S. 30, as did most immigrants taking that route, the Virginians used the Sublette Cutt-off, or the "Dry Drive." In this way they saved five days and, having picked up the Oregon Trail some distance northwest of Fort Bridger, they continued in a northwestwardly direction into present Idaho by Soda Springs to Fort Hall on Snake River. From this point their course was southwestward along Snake River to the mouth of Raft River, where they abandoned the Oregon Trail which continued thence over present U. S. 30 through Fort Boise, Idaho, and present Baker, La Grande and Pendleton, Oregon, to Umatilla on the Columbia River. See Federal Writers' Project, *The Oregon Trail* and road maps for the states traversed.

The company continued by way of Raft, Goose Creek, and Martin's Fork valleys into the Humbolt Valley. Thence by way of the Truckee River, it reached the Sierra Nevada Mountains which it crossed by way of the Donner cabins into central California. See Lansford W. Hastings, *The Emigrants Guide to Oregon and California* (1845); J. M. Shively, *Routes and Distances to Oregon and California* (1846); and Owen C. Coy, *The Great Trek* (1931); Edwin Bryant, *What I Saw in California* (1848); Federal Writers' Project, *The Oregon Trail* (1939).

[10] The area west of Missouri was at this time Indian territory, in which both the Catholics and Methodists maintained missions. Coy, *The Great Trek*, p. 127.

[11] See note 8.

it again stopped for rest. Two days later Hoffman began to make somewhat regular notations of the daily experiences of the company, which will be reproduced as indicated above.

June, 1849

Monday, 4. We crossed the Platte river. It is about one mile in width, though not more than 2 feet 5 inches deep.

Tuesday, 5. We met 2,000 Indians. They were of the Sioux tribe, and appeared to be very friendly. Our men traded with them for ponies, buffalo meat, moccasins, &c. We also killed a young buffalo today, the first one, although we have seen numbers of them. The principal game in these regions are the buffalo, antelope, deer and some elk.

Friday, 8. We passed Castle Bluffs. These are tall peaks which appeared in the distance like many houses.

Sunday, 10. We passed Castle Palace, a large rock 450 or 500 feet in height, and appearing at a distance like a large mansion house. It is generally called Castle Court House.[12] We also had the most awful hailstorm this evening I have ever witnessed. The plains were a perfect sheet of fire, while the thunder rolled, the wind howled, and the hail fell in great masses, which made it dangerous for man and beast.

Monday, 11. We passed Chimney Rock,[13] 25 miles from Castle Palace. This rock is over 200 feet high. I visited this place myself.

Tuesday, 12. We passed Scott's Bluffs.[14] From this point we have the first view of the Rocky Mountains, but are yet about 260 miles off. Only the tallest peaks are visible.

Thursday, 14. We crossed the Laramie Fork,[15] a narrow but deep and very rapid stream. We also passed Fort Laramie [16] today. We are now 670 miles from St. Joe (St. Joseph), 350 miles from Fort Childs,[17] and about one-third of the distance to the Pacific Coast.

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[12] Court House Rock, near present Bridgeport, Nebraska, is part of a strange geological structure located at the point "where the Platte cuts through the highlands into the plains." It is about 300 feet high and its walls closely resemble masonry. W. J. Ghent, *The Road to Oregon*, p. 131-132; Hiram M. Chittenden, *American Fur Trade*, Vol. I, p. 467; Coy, *The Great Trek*, p. 135.

[13] Chimney Rock is a "strange conformation" about ten miles west of present Bridgeport, Nebraska. Ghent, *The Road to Oregon*, p. 132; Chittenden, *Fur Trade*, Vol. I, p. 467; *The Oregon Trail*, p. 211.

[14] Scott's Bluffs are about 32 miles from present Bridgeport, Nebraska. They encroached so close upon the river that the trail was forced to leave it for a short distance. Ghent, *The Road to Oregon*, pp. 131-132. For origin of the name Scott's Bluffs, see Chittenden, *Fur Trade*, Vol. I, pp. 467-468; Coy, *The Great Trek*, p. 136.

[15] Laramie Fork empties into North Platte River.

[16] Fort Laramie, first called Fort William, was located on Laramie Fork about 700 miles from Independence, Missouri. It was built in 1834 by William Sublette and Robert Campbell, fur traders operating out of St. Louis, Missouri, for the purpose of contacting Sioux and Cheyenne Indians. The American Fur Company purchased the fort in 1836 and changed its name to Fort John. In 1841 it replaced its log stockade with adobe walls. In June, 1849, the Federal Government purchased the post which had already become a favorite way station for emigrants going to California. *Dictionary of American History*, Vol. II, p. 245; Hastings, *Emigrants Guide*, pp. 136-137; Chittenden, *Fur Trade*, Vol. I, p. 469; Coy, *The Great Trek*, pp. 139-140; *The Oregon Trail*, pp. 170-172.

[17] Fort Kearney was sometimes called Fort Childs. Albert Watkins, "History of Fort Kearney," in Nebraska State Historical Society, *Collections*, Vol. XVI, p. 242; *The Oregon Trail*, pp. 68-70.

Friday, 15. We entered the Black Hills[18] and find grass to be very scarce and water also. These hills extend about 140 miles. A great deal of suffering is expected, ere we pass through them, by man as well as beast. According to Bryant's calculations,[19] it is 300 miles from Fort Laramie to the South Pass in the Rocky Mountains. Whether we shall live to reach it no one knows. The hills are now covered with bacon, flour and provisions of every kind, wagons and cooking utensils of every sort, that emigrants have thrown away, having packed their animals with a part of their supplies and gone on.

Saturday, 16. We passed the Warm Spring.[20] It is a very strange stream. The water is about milk warm. The next curiosity that draws the attention of the wayworn traveler is Laramie Peak, 6.500 feet above sea level and 2,000 feet above Fort Laramie. It presents a beautiful and picturesque sight.

Sunday, 17. We laid by to rest ourselves and animals, as both were much fatigued. We killed a fine buffalo today.

Monday, 18. We started by daylight and traveled 18 miles to breakfast. We halted on the Lebonti Creek. This is the most delightful spot that we have yet seen. Had a fine rest in a splendid grove perfumed with roses and various other flowers, with which this romantic and solitary place abounds.

Tuesday, 19. A beautiful morning. The sun rose in all its splendor and brilliancy, with a pleasant breeze from the west. We made a fine journey today.

Wednesday, 20. We crossed the northern branch of the river Platte, using our sheet iron wagon-bed to ferry our goods and wagons over. We crossed at the mouth of Deer Creek,[21] about 30 miles below the regular Mormon ferry, in order to cut off as many teams as possible. There are 150 ahead of us now. When we were at Fort Childs there were 300 ahead of us. There have been several men drowned while crossing at this place. The stream is about 150 yards wide and very deep and rapid. Fortunately we all got over safe, and with our goods, &c., while many lost their goods and cattle.

Thursday, 21; Friday, 22; Saturday, 23. We traveled through a waste and barren country, although it abounds with many fine springs, some of them strong of sulphur. The surrounding hills abound with stone coal, and the low or level places are covered with soda, or saleratus.

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[18] "Black Hills," was the name sometimes given to the plateau or tableland between Laramie and North Platte rivers, described by Chittenden, as "the mountainous country." They were foothills of the Rocky Mountains. Chittenden, *Fur Trade*, Vol. I, p. 469; Coy, *The Great Trek*, pp. 140-141.

[19] This reference is doubtless to Edwin Bryant, *What I Saw in California*, published in New York in 1848. Caughey, *California*, p. 626.

[20] Warm Spring, or Big Spring, was about 13 miles from Fort Laramie. Ghent, *Road to Oregon*, p. 135; Chittenden, *Fur Trade*, Vol. I, pp. 469-470.

[21] Deer Creek is the largest southern affluent of the Platte between Laramie and Stillwater rivers. Its mouth was a famous camping place on the Oregon Trail. Reuben G. Thwaites, *Early Western Travels*, Vol. XXX, p. 65, note 40; Chittenden, *Fur Trade*, Vol. I, p. 470.

Sunday, 24. The country presents a little better or brighter prospect. The hills look something greener. We arrived this evening at Sweetwater river, and encamped for the night.

Monday, 25. We made an early start and crossed the river at Independence Rock.[22] This is a tremendous rock on the roadside. I suppose it is a mile or more in circumference, and extends to a great height. It is covered with the names of travelers, some dated as far back as 1842. We traveled five miles and recrossed the river at a place called Devil's Gate,[23] where the river runs through a great mountain of rock about a half mile in length and quite a narrow channel. It looks as though it has been the work of art. The sides are cut nearly perpendicular from four to five hundred feet in height. The object in recrossing the river was to shun the sandy roads and dust and also to get away from the number of wagons. The sand is from 6 to 10 inches deep, and almost hot enough to cook eggs. We have now a much better road and better grass, we have passed many high mountains of rocks of a reddish cast. They are called the buttes of the Rocky Mountains. There is also plenty of granite in this section of the country.

Tuesday, 26 and Wednesday, 27. We traveled a rough and mountainous country with a heavy track and sandy road, crossing the Sweet Water two or three times. It runs very crooked and winds through the mountains. At one place we had a great deal of difficulty, as it came very near swimming our mules. Snow had made its appearance on the highest mountains the past day or two.

Thursday, 28. We took up the line of march, at an early hour, and traveled until 9 o'clock, when we halted to graze and rest our mules, as we have a 16 mile stretch to make in order to find a suitable place to encamp and over a dreadful hilly road. We met with a party of trappers today, who say that it will be impossible for us ever to reach California as the grass gets shorter and shorter every day and will give out entirely in 500 miles farther. They say also that there are teams 300 miles ahead of us that will not get through. This has thrown a gloom over all of us, as we have not now more provisions than will last us through, providing we have nothing to stop us.

Friday, 29. During this day we came through the South Pass,[24] which is 19 miles in length, and found plenty of snow in the ravines, which no doubt has been lying there for centuries past. The mountains are completely capped with snow. The scenery is grand at this. We encamped

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[22] Independence Rock, a granite boulder on the north bank of Sweetwater River in present Wyoming, was a famous landmark on the Oregon Trail. *Dictionary of American History*, Vol. III, p. 86; Chittenden, *Fur Trade*, Vol. I, pp. 470-473, *The Oregon Trail*, pp. 188-189.

[23] Devil's Gate, sometimes known as Hell Gate, five miles west of Independence Rock, was one of the most singular freaks of nature on the Oregon Trail. Coy, *The Great Trek*, p. 143; *The Oregon Trail*, p. 189.

[24] South Pass, probably discovered by Etienne Provost about 1823, is "the most celebrated pass in the entire length of the Continental Divide." Here the emigrants first saw waters flowing westward to the Pacific. Chittenden, *Fur Trade*, Vol. I, p. 476; *The Oregon Trail*, p. 194.

this evening at the Pacific Spring. This is the first stream that flows into the Pacific Ocean.

Saturday, 30. We started on our long and toilsome journey with renewed vigor, as we can look back on the Rocky Mountains. The Pacific Spring is said to be one-half the distance from Fort Independence to California. We traveled about six miles, when the road turns off to Salt Lake, the great Mormon settlement.[25] About one-half of the emigrants are taking this route. We are taking the route by Fort Hall. We came 20 miles this morning and stopped for dinner on the Little Sandy River. In the evening we traveled six miles further to the Big Sandy River,[26] on the route that is called Sublette's Cut-Off.[27] It saves five days travel, though there is a distance of 50 miles without grass or water. We are now in the Oregon territory.

July, 1849

Sunday, 1. Today we laid by until two o'clock for the purpose of refreshing ourselves and mules for the 60 mile stretch which is just before us. At that hour we started and traveled until 1 o'clock next morning.

Monday, 2. We moved by daylight and reached Green river at 9 o'clock. This country is generally barren and sandy, part of it very mountainous.

Tuesday, 3. Last night was a cold, frosty night. Ice froze to a considerable thickness. We ferried our teams across the river today. This stream is about the size of the North Branch of the Platte, but much more difficult to cross. It runs nearly north and south and empties into the Colorado or Red River, thence into the Gulf of California. The whole day was spent in crossing. We drowned one of our mules while swimming it over. This is the first one that we have lost since we have been on our journey.

Wednesday, 4. We spent the glorious fourth on the western bank of Green river, in a beautiful valley, shaded by cotton trees. We enjoyed ourselves under the delightful shade of the trees. We fired our cannon several times which made echoes and re-echoes resound through the neighboring hills, which reminded us of home and the endearments of civilization. We also hired out our boats to emigrants today at $5 per

[25] After their expulsion from Nauvoo, Illinois, in February, 1846, the Mormons, a religious sect founded by Joseph Smith, took a westerly route along a well-beaten trail through what is now Iowa. Moving almost due westward, they crossed Missouri River into Nebraska Territory, where they remained during the winter of 1846-47. Under the leadership of Brigham Young they moved westward in April, 1847, along the north bank of the Platte River to Fort Laramie. There they continued their journey over the Oregon Trail to Fort Bridger in present Wyoming. Thence through Echo Canyon and East Canyon they crossed Big and Little mountains and the Wasatch Range and through Emigration Canyon into the Valley of Great Salt Lake, where they founded Salt Lake City. From that center their settlements radiated in all directions. *Dictionary of American History*, Vol. IV, 24-26, and Vol. V, p. 19.

[26] The Oregon Trail followed the Big Sandy almost its entire length. Thwaites, *Early Western Travels*, Vol. XXI, p. 187, note 36; Chittenden, *Fur Trade*, Vol. I, p. 476.

[27] Sublette's Cut-off, or the "Dry Drive," as it was called "On account of the long stretch of waterless country between Big Sandy and Green rivers, was a nearcut to avoid going to Fort Bridger." It traversed a waterless 50-mile stretch. Chittenden, *Fur Trade*, Vol. I, pp. 476-478, and *The Oregon Trail*, pp. 101, 196.

team for crossing. The regular ferry charges $10. We made $175 by the operation.

Thursday, 5. We got underway about 9 o'clock, and traveled over a rough, hilly country, and crossed a considerable stream called twelve mile creek.

Friday, 6. We passed over a very mountainous country, a part of it covered with snow.

Saturday, 7. The country continues hilly with some snow, though the grass is getting to be very good. We passed some timber today, which is the first of any consequence that I have seen since I left the Missouri line. It is the aspen tree. There are some excellent springs in this region. We met with a party of Indians today of that Snake tribe. The face of the country looks better than usual. The sod appears to be rich. We crossed a large creek this evening and encamped on the eastern bank of the Bear river.

Sunday, 8. We got under way at an early hour, and traveled until noon. Crossing Bear river, a considerable stream, we put up for the remainder of the day in a beautiful valley. We caught a fine bunch of fish this evening.

Monday, 9. We sent three men ahead to Fort Hall,[28] ninety miles distant, to inquire of the prospects ahead and also to try and purchase some flour and horses, if possible. We met with a serious loss today. Mr. W. T. Milton, in attempting to swim Camises fork, quite a small stream, was drowned.

Mr. Milton was a resident of Jefferson County, Va., and was a useful member in our company. Thus we were obliged to bury another of our comrades in this wild and almost unknown region. Only another mound is raised to catch the eye of the wayworn traveler. I know that I have seen at least one hundred graves while traveling this waste and barren route in the past fifteen hundred miles. Oh, what will man not endure in order to get the filthy lucre, gold! We buried comrade Milton in the most decent manner possible. Peace to his ashes.

Tuesday, 10. We made a brisk travel today, over a splendid road, up a beautiful valley, enclosed on both sides with uninterrupted hills. The grass is at least two feet high, with several small streams of pure water running through it. It is a delightful spot.

Wednesday, 11. We started at one o'clock in the morning and reached the Soda Springs[29] little after sunrise, 14 miles distant. This water, with

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[28] Fort Hall, located on the left bank of Snake River near its junction with Portneuf River, was in present Idaho. It was built in 1834 by Nathaniel J. Wyeth and named for Henry Hall, one of Wyeth's financial backers. In 1837 it was purchased by the Hudson Bay Company which used it as a trading post until 1855 when it was abandoned. Meanwhile, it had been a favorite stopping and trading post for Oregon and California emigrants. *Dictionary of American History*, Vol. III, p. 6; Chittenden. *Fur Trade*, Vol. I, pp. 479-480; Coy, *The Great Trek*, pp. 156-159; *The Oregon Trail*, pp. 202-204.

[29] The Soda Springs, six crystal clear pools, about seven feet in diameter, are on the northwest side of Bear River. They were natural gas formations and emitted a noise "resembling the boiling of immense cauldrons." It was here that the main trail to California left the Oregon Trail. Thwaites, *Early Western Travels*, Vol. XXVIII, p. 296; Chittenden, *Fur Trade*, Vol. I, p. 479.

the addition of a little sugar and vinegar, is equal to the best soda. There are also several boiling springs at this place, and the steamboat spring is certainly a curiosity. It has constant puffing, like the exhaust of a large steamboat. In addition to these there are several poisonous springs here, which are said to be instant death to anything that drinks from them. There is now or has been a burning mountain at this place. The gases issue out so strong that it takes ones breath if they get too close. We remained here until two o'clock in the evening, viewing the different curiosities, when we again pursued our journey. We traveled 17 miles more and encamped for the night, making 31 miles today.

Thursday, 12. Last night was extremely cold. Ice froze in our camp kettles to the thickness of an inch. It reminded me of a December morning in Virginia. We got on our way about 7 o'clock. Passed some Indian wigwams today and some very large and excellent springs.

Friday, 13. We made an early start, as usual, and traveled over a very heavy road and encamped at the big spring six miles east of Fort Hall. The three men that were sent ahead returned this evening. They succeeded in purchasing 700 weight of flour at 8 cents a pound. As to information as to the road on to Fort Sutter, they gained none.

Saturday, 14. We arrived at Fort Hall, after much difficulty in crossing sluices and mire. Fort Hall is situated on the bank of the Snake river. The distance from here to Fort Sutter[30] is estimated to be from six to eight hundred miles. We traveled about three miles further and crossed Portneuf river, and encamped for the rest of the day on the southwestern bank. This is the most delightful stream that I have ever beheld. A fine gravel bottom, with water as clear as a crystal. I saw fish in this river fully ten feet long. We rigged up a small seine, but only caught some small trout and fall fish.

Sunday, 15. This morning we pursued our journey at an early hour and crossed Snake or Shawnee river,[31] and traveled down it the remainder of the day, through a barren country covered with chaparral.

Monday, 16. We passed the great American falls[32] on the Shawnee river. These falls can be heard for a long distance, the water pitching over great precipices some 25 or 30 feet high. We pursued our course down the river, enclosed on both sides with great pyramids of rocks. We found the wild currant growing in abundance here. We crossed Beaver creek in the evening, with several high dams on it, said to have been built by beavers. These dams are ten or twelve feet high. We now leave the Shawnee to see it no more. Wending our way through the mountains, passing the Oregon trail, which turns off to the right and appears to be a good deal traveled this summer, we encamped on Cano creek, having made 30 miles.

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[30] Sutter's Fort was near the junction of American and Sacramento rivers in the California gold field.

[31] Snake River is a south branch of the Columbia. For a description of the Snake River and its tributaries see Chittenden, *Fur Trade*, Vol. I, pp. 783-785.

[32] Great American Falls are on Snake River in a horse-shoe form. Coy, *The Great Trek*, p. 160.

Tuesday, 17. We remained in camp until eleven o'clock to repair the axle of one of our wagons. We have now but fourteen left; we traveled about 13 miles and encamped for the night on the same creek.

Wednesday, 18. We made a daylight start on our long and toilsome journey. The country continued barren and parched by the heating rays of the noonday sun. It never rains here in the summer season, and the dust is eight or ten inches deep, which makes it very disagreeable to the wayworn traveler. We encamped this evening on Swamp Creek.[33]

Thursday, 19. We traveled along a beautiful valley between the Eutaw mountains. We are at a loss to know where to find water, as Mr. Smith, our guide, has never traveled this route before. His guideship was at an end when the Oregon trail turned off. This afternoon we passed some of the highest peaks of rocks that I have yet seen. Some of them supposed to be 600 feet high. They present a magnificent sight. The Mormon City, or Salt Lake road, that leads at the South Pass, intersected our trail today, 100 miles this side of Fort Hall.

Friday, 20. We traveled over the most mountainous country that we have yet passed. In many places we were obliged to let our wagons down with ropes. Notwithstanding, the soil appears to be of good quality, and there is an abundance of grass in these mountains. We came to a fine creek today, called Goose creek, and caught some fine trout out of it. We traveled ten miles further on and encamped for the night.

Saturday, 21. We continued our course up the creek until the middle of the day, when we again took to the mountains. We had a shower of rain today, the first for six weeks. We made 24 miles and encamped in the Warm Spring valley.

Sunday, 22. We pursued our course down the valley in the burning sun for about 16 miles without water, when we became so thirsty and fatigued that we were obliged to halt and dig for water. We found some brackish sulphur which tasted fairly well to a thirsty man. There is nothing grows in this valley but wild sage and chaparrals. We remained here two hours, and then marched on about five miles farther, when unexpectedly we came to pretty good grass and water. We remained at this spot until two o'clock.

Monday, 23. We today put our train in motion and traveled 10 miles farther and encamped for the night. This afternoon we passed hot spring. The water flows out so hot that you cannot bear your hand in it, and, strange to say, not more than fifteen or twenty yards from it there is a spring the water from which is as cold as any ice water. This valley is thirty-seven miles in length.

Tuesday, 24. We marched off at an early hour, and crossed during the day a range of high mountains which form the eastern rim of the great

[33] This is present March Creek, an affluent of Lewis River. Thwaites, *Early Western Travels*, Vol. XXX, p. 91, note 72.

basin. We crossed the California trail today and reached a fine stream called Martin's Fork. We traveled down this branch about 12 miles and encamped for the night. The grass is plentiful and splendid on this stream.

Wednesday, 25. We continued our course down a beautiful valley and encamped on the same stream that we did last night.

Thursday, 26. We pursued our journey down the valley and crossed another stream. This and Martin's fork are eastern branches of the St. Mary or Humboldt river. It is hemmed in on every side by mountains, and therefore has no outlet. It flows west about three hundred miles and sinks. This is the principal stream in the Great Basin,[34] and our trail follows it to the end. This after we crossed some ridges of hills, but frequently touched the stream, which flows very crooked at this place.

Friday, 27. We crossed a ridge of mountains, 12 miles in length, and were much disappointed, not thinking it to be more than three or four miles until we would come to the river again. This was by far the hardest day's travel we have had on the route, having made 12 miles before we reached the hills; so we made 24 miles today without grass or water.

Saturday, 28. We crossed a ridge of hills 20 miles in length. Fortunately we found some water about the centre of this stretch, when we halted to refresh ourselves and animals. We then again traveled on and reached the river about dark.

Sunday, 29. We made a short journey, as we had no grass last night, following the river. We encamped early this evening with pretty good grass.

Monday, 30. We remained in camp for the purpose of recruiting our mules a little, as they are getting very weak. We were obliged to leave one of our wagons today so that we would have more mules to put to the balance of them. There were five deer brought into camp today, shot by our men. Deer are plentiful along this, the Humbolt river. We also caught some fine trout, which were very palatable.

Tuesday, 31. We put our train in motion at any early hour and traveled until 10 o'clock, when we laid up until 5 in the afternoon. The sun is so hot in the middle of the day that it is almost impossible for us to travel. At that hour we again pursued our journey until 11 o'clock at night, when we encamped with scarcely any grass.

August, 1849

Wednesday, 1. We started at sunrise this morning and traveled down the river, over a barren country. The grass is completely parched by

[34] The Great Basin is an area of about 200,000 square miles comprising portions of California, Oregon, Utah, and most of Nevada. Its most salient hydrographic feature is Great Salt Lake. Chittenden, *Fur Trade*, Vol. II, pp. 792-798 and Coy, *The Great Trek*, p. 157, map.

the burning rays of the noonday sun. We saw a signal fire this evening on the mountain from our camp.

Thursday, 2. We continued our course along the St. Mary's. Nature seems to have destined this river for some such purpose, forming fine places for keeping stock in the great bends which it makes. I have no doubt the grass was very good in the commencement of the season. There were five mules and two horses stolen from a neighboring camp last night by the Indians, who are very troublesome along this river. We traveled until 11 o'clock tonight and encamped.

Friday, 3. We traveled all day without any grass. Our animals can scarcely get along for weakness. Fortunately late in the evening we found some little.

Saturday, 4. We crossed the river in order to shun the sand, which is at least a foot deep, and found it impossible to get through it. We are also compelled to do the most of our traveling after night. The sun is so very hot that one cannot stand it in the heat of the day.

Sunday, 5. We laid in camp until three o'clock today, for the purpose of ascertaining the amount of flour on hand. Find it to be only thirty pounds to a man which will not last more than fifteen or twenty days at the furtherest. At that hour we put the train in motion, recrossed the river and traveled over a sandy desert for fifteen miles, we reached the river at 10 o'clock at night, and encamped.

Monday, 6. We started early this morning and pursued nearly a northern direction over a perfect desert without any vegetation whatever. This evening the road turns due south. We encamp tonight without any grass.

Tuesday, 7. The country continues barren and sandy. We have now been forty-eight hours with little or no grass and no prospects of finding any shortly. It certainly is a gloomy time with all of us, as our animals can scarcely get along and our provisions are getting very scarce.

Wednesday, 8. This evening we drove seven miles from the road and found plenty of grass. This place has just been discovered. We had a shocking accident in camp this evening. Comrade James Davidson shot himself accidentally. He lived only a few hours afterward. Mr. Davidson was a resident of Frederick County, Va., and just in the prime of life. His loss is very much regretted by all. We buried Mr. Davidson in the most respectable manner possible in this solitary country. We thought as we raised his mound that earth never seemed so drear. We leave him to sleep in peace until awakened by Jehovah's call.

Thursday, 9; Friday, 10; Saturday, 11. Until one o'clock, we laid by at this place to recruit ourselves and animals, and also to make some hay to feed us over a desert said to be sixty five miles in length. At one o'clock Saturday evening we took the line of march again and passed the sink of St. Mary's river. This I have mentioned before. It scatters far

and wide among the rushes and sinks to be seen no more. We traveled 22 miles this evening and encamped at the Sulphur Spring. This is decidedly the strongest sulphur that I have ever tasted.

Sunday, 12. We left camp at an early hour and traveled ten miles to breakfast. We suffer very much for water at this time. After we had eaten breakfast we pursued our journey and encamped at the hot springs. This water is boiling hot and we use it for tea and coffee. By dipping it up and cooling it we make out to drink it. We have to cool it for the stock. We can cook here very conveniently without fire or fuel.

Monday, 13. We started at one o'clock this morning and made an effort to get through the desert today. We traveled about ten miles when our teams all gave up and left us in the burning sand without any water and nearly all famished. This is indeed a trying time. We remained here until late in the evening, when we made another effort. By double-teaming we succeeded in getting a part of the wagons over this end of the route. It is very heavy sand which is burning hot, and there has been great destruction of property for those who have preceded us through this desert. Dead mules are lying around us by the hundreds. By getting a part of our teams through we have been more fortunate. We encamp this evening on Truckee river, which is a beautiful clear stream of good water, shaded by cotton trees. We have now plenty of good water, wood for fuel and an abundance of grass.

Tuesday, 14. This day was spent in getting the balance of our wagons over.

Wednesday, 15. All of our wagons are now safe in camp. After giving our mules a good rest we resumed our toilsome journey, but made little headway, only traveling about 6 miles and crossing the river five times. This river is not more than thirty yards wide, but has a very rapid current and a rough, rocky bottom, which makes it difficult fording. We were obliged to encamp tonight without grass. We fed our animals on willow bushes.

Thursday, 16. Started early this morning and traveled a few miles, when we found a little grass and halted two hours to graze our mules, after which we went a little further and encamped for the night. We made 9 miles and crossed the river seven times.

Friday, 17. We resumed our winding course early as usual, and made some eight miles, when we halted for breakfast. The long-dreaded Sierra Nevada mountains made their first appearance this morning. They are completely capped with snow. After resting a few hours we took up the line of march, made about fifteen miles, and crossed the river ten times. We encamp tonight in a splendid valley covered with fine grass. This valley is about five miles in length and two or three in width.

Saturday, 18. We remained in camp this morning waiting for the carriage that we left behind to procure some flour and bacon, our bacon

being entirely exhausted and we have very little flour on hand. In the evening we moved about three miles further up the valley and encamped for the night. The carriage has not yet arrived.

Sunday, 19. The carriage came up this morning and we resumed our course through a hilly and rocky country, making about sixteen miles and crossing the river four times. Several of our mules were swept away by the current, but fortunately they were all rescued.

Monday, 20. We started at daybreak this morning and crossed the river again, making twenty-seven times in a distance of about thirty miles. About noon today we reached the base of the Sierra Nevada mountains. These mountains are clothed with fine timber, pines, firs and cedar trees. Pine trees can be found here eighteen feet in circumference, and fifty or sixty feet without a limb. The cedars are also very large. We traveled six or seven miles over the mountains, then halted for breakfast in a little valley surrounded on every side by mountains of a tremendous height, where we remained until three o'clock in the evening, when we again marched on a few miles farther and halted for the night.

Tuesday, 21. We broke camp very early this morning and crossed a high range of mountains. The road runs southwest today. Yesterday we traveled nearly northwest. Crossed a pleasant little brook of excellent water, a tributary of the Truckee river. Passed over another range of hills and came into a splendid valley through which flows a fine stream of excellent water. This also is a tributary of the Truckee river. Here we stopped to graze and refresh our animals and ourselves. Three men were sent ahead today to Johnson settlement and Fort Sutter to find out the situation and to make arrangements about provisions. After dinner we resumed our march and arrived at the Donner cabins this evening, the place where the Donner party perished in 1846.[85] It is truly an appalling sight. The ground is all scattered with human bones.

It may not be improper for me here to state that a party of emigrants consisting of men, women and children led by George Donner started for California in the year 1846. They attempted to make a cut-off, were lost in the mountains, were caught in the snow, and nearly all of them perished. God save our party from a like fate.

Wednesday, 22. This day was spent in crossing the highest peak of the Sierra Nevada mountains. We passed Truckee river. This river begins with a lake and empties into Lake Pyramid.[86] We passed up some of the highest precipices of rocks, that were almost impossible. We were

[85] The Donner party was a group of 87 men, women and children under the command of George Donner, which against advice of others, separated itself from a larger company and attempted to reach California in 1846 by the so-called Hastings Cut-Off around the southern end of Great Salt Lake. They were caught in the snows of the Sierra Nevadas, and more than half of their number perished before help arrived. The survivors were reduced to cannibalism in what is generally considered "one of the most tragic episodes in the annals of the westward movement." Dan E. Clark, *The West in American History* (New York, 1937), p. 479.

[86] Lake Pyramid is one of several lakes along the eastern base of Sierra Nevada Mountains, which have no outlet to the ocean. Chittenden, *Fur Trade*, Vol. II, p. 797.

obliged to double-team and pull up with ropes. The first emigrants drew up their wagons with a windlass. We all arrived safe at the top a little before sundown. The road down is not quite so bad. We were after night in getting into camp.

Thursday, 23. We remained in camp until 2 o'clock p. m. to rest from our hard labors on yesterday. At that hour we started again and made about seven miles over a terrible road, passing what is called Seven Lakes on the top of a very high mountain.

Friday, 24. We pursued our rugged course this morning, winding and twisting about through the mountains and over great cliffs of rock all day. Night came on and caught us on top of a great precipice. We were obliged to tie our mules to the wagon wheels until morning. We made only five miles and were busy all day.

Saturday, 25. We managed to get our mules down one at a time, after which we attached ropes to the wagons and by using trees as snubbing posts we all got down in safety. We then traveled on, jumping from rock to rock, and from crap to crag, passing up some tremendous high and rocky place, requiring all hands to the wagons in order to get them up. We made some eight miles today.

Sunday, 26. Wearied and worn, we still persevered on our toilsome journey this morning, traveling about three miles, when we came to another tremendous high and rocky mountain. We gained the top of it after repeated trials, and found just room enough for our wagons to stand on it. To look down it seems almost bottomless. We are all out of heart and almost ready to give up. But after holding a consultation, we again picked up courage and made another effort to pass on. By taking out the mules and using the ropes as before, going from one tree to another until we reached the bottom, which was fully half a mile, the whole day was spent in getting down. Fortunately about night the wagons were all safely in the valley below, without accident of any sort. This is a beautiful little valley, about two miles in length and one half mile in width, covered with fine grass and a pure stream of water running through the centre of it. It is called Bear Valley. We encamped near the center of it for the night.

Monday, 27. We today lay by to rest from our hard labors of the past three days. I have been rambling through the mountains today and found raspberries and gooseberries growing here in abundance. They are now fully ripe and they taste very nice to a tired and hungry man. The oak trees have also made their appearance, with their majestic tops almost piercing the clouds. They bring to one's mind the memories of home, sweet home, and the endearments of civilization. We have shot several fine deer the past week. They are plentiful, as are also bears and elks.

Tuesday, 28. We started before daylight this morning, in order to get ahead of the wagons, that have been much in the way. The road has

been a little better today. We have made thirteen miles and camped for the night without a particle of grass, feeding on oak bushes.

Wednesday, 29. We resumed our march again this morning, but had not proceeded far when we came to the brink of the worst mountain that we have yet encountered, quite a half mile down and almost perpendicular. We were obliged to cut down large threes and attached them to the wagons. By this means we got down without accident. We passed the first gold diggers today. Some of the teams had failed and the men went to mining and were meeting with good success. We marched all day without feed, making fourteen miles, and feeding on bushes again tonight.

Thursday, 30. Started again this morning, having a very steep mountain to ascend, which we got up with much difficulty, moving by inches until the summit was reached. We here held a consultation as to what we should do in regard to our progress. Our provisions are all gone and our teams completely played out. After a great deal of wrangling it was decided to discard one half of the wagons and take the mules and the other half and proceed. We made about five miles and halted.

Friday, 31. We proceeded this morning, leaving several mules through the day, that could not travel further.

September, 1849

Saturday, 1. Made another effort today, after having traveled twelve miles yesterday with practically no food for man or beast, and by bringing all the energy and courage which both men and beast possessed, and putting same into action, we succeeded in making a march of sixteen miles, reaching the first, or Johnston's settlement,[37] in the territory of California, about night, where both man and beast were well fed and taken care of.

After a few days of much needed rest, we proceeded to Sacramento, and from there to San Francisco. Thus ended a long and toilsome journey of over four months from St. Joseph, Missouri, to the city of San Francisco in the territory of California, a distance of 2,105 miles.

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[37] This was perhaps Johnson's Ranch at the intersection of the California Trail with Bear River. Coy, p. 193, map.

West Virginians in the American Revolution

Assembled and Edited by ROSS B. JOHNSTON

The sources of this material are from the files of the Pension Office at Washington, from various county records, from notes of patriotic societies, principally the Daughters of the American Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution, Sons of the Revolution, and from a large miscellaneous group of published and private sources. Corrections and additions to this list will receive the careful attention of the editor.

DUKE, GEORGE

Enlisted in the Revolutionary Army and was killed at Brandywine.

DUKE, JAMES

Served in the Revolutionary War and afterwards lived near Charles Town, Jefferson County, Virginia.

DUKE, JOHN

Enlisted in the Revolution from Berkeley County, Virginia. Received a pension for his military services.

DUKE, MATHEW

Son of John Duke, born July 5, 1758. Probably served in the Revolutionary Army as a substitute for Daniel Hedricks. Died near Uvilla in 1820.

DUKE, FRANCIS (Deputy Commissary)

Born in Ireland, February 11, 1751, and emigrated with his family to Berkeley County, Virginia, where in 1773 he married Sarah, the eldest daughter of Colonel David Shepherd. Removed with the latter's family to Wheeling Creek, Ohio County. He was appointed by his father-in-law deputy commissary, and as such was stationed at Beech Bottom Fort. It was probably from there that he approached Fort Henry during the Indian attack of 1777, and was killed in attempting to enter the fort Under fire. He left an infant son, John, and a posthumous son, Francis.

DUNBAR, JONATHAN

Service—Virginia Va. No. 23923 No. S. 19286

Born, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, April 15, 1762. Enlisted in the fall of 1780, Augusta County, Virginia, and served twelve months as a private under Captain Cravens, Colonel Thomas Huggard, Lieutenant-Colonel John McCreery, Colonel Vance, Major Wilson, Captain Thomas Smith, Captain John Dickey, Lieutenant Chas. Baskins and others. Fought at Guilford Courthouse, Hot Water, and Jamestown. Pension certificate

issued April 21, 1834, Nicholas County, Virginia. Supporting claims by R. Hamilton, Edmond Rion, and Samuel Clark.

DUNLAP, JOSEPH

Born, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, July 24, 1757, and enlisted, Huntington County, New Jersey, for Revolutionary War service. Served under Captains Hulix, Kerhart, Colonels Bevers, West, Major Grudendyke, and General Wayne. Lived in Berkeley County for a time and moved to Monongalia County in 1796. There he applied for pension, April 22, 1833, but claim was rejected.

DUVAL, DANIEL

Applied for pension in Monongalia County, Virginia, but the record is not complete. Wife was Marie Brook. File No. W. 5069.

DUVALL, JOHN PIERCE (County Lieutenant)

Prominent on the border both in civil and military affairs. In 1776, homesteaded on the headwaters of the West Fork River at what was known as the Indian House. Then he appears to have had residence at Clarksburg where he was appointed under legislative act of May, 1779, with James Neal and William Haymond as commissioners to adjust land claims on the western waters, certificates of title for which were issued March 7, 1781. He was a member of the state senate from Monongalia County, and later from Harrison County, from 1780 to 1792. When Harrison County was formed in 1784, he was chosen county lieutenant and was prominent during the Indian wars. He was an incorporator of Randolph Academy, and a leader in county affairs until his death.

EAGLE (EAGLES), WILLIAM

Service—Virginia Va. No. 20137 No. S. 39480

Enlisted, Pendleton County, Virginia, December 24, 1776, under Captain Stead. He was with Washington's army during the terrible winter at Valley Forge. Later he was transferred to Captain Kirkpatrick's company of the Fourth Virginia which was commanded by Colonel James Wood and also by Colonel John Neville, who was a son-in-law of General Daniel Morgan. He was discharged, September 18, 1778, because of "inability," which tradition says was a broken arm, but he later rejoined the army and is believed to have been present at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown.

His wife, Mary Ann, was aged 35 in 1830. They had a son, George Washington Eagle, aged 6 in 1820. Soldier received pension in 1830 and his widow applied for pension in 1853. Supporting claims made by Jeremiah O'Dell. The celebrated Eagle Rocks of the Smoke Hole section of the South Branch of West Virginia are named for this Revolutionary soldier. It is said that Eagle narrowly escaped death at one time while trying to capture some young eagles from the nest on top of its lofty crag.

EARL, JAMES

Before the Wood County Court, August 3, 1818, James Earl, aged 71,

testified that he had enlisted as a private in the State of Pennsylvania in company commanded by Captain Chambers of the First Regiment, that he continued in service for one year, when he was discharged. Pension application was therefore forwarded to the War Department.

EASTER, JOHN

Service—Maryland Va. No. 16925 No. S. 18389

Born, January 17, 1760, Washington County, Maryland, and there enlisted under Captains Billmire, Brewer, and Casner in regiment of Maryland troops commanded by Colonel Moses Rawlings. Served nine months in marches and on guard duty. Pension was granted soldier, October 16, 1833, Morgan County, Virginia. Supporting claims were made by John Shinard.

ECKARD, ANDREW

Application for pension was filed before the Mason County Court, March, 1834, by Andrew Eckard, aged 76, for services as a Revolutionary soldier. His claim was supported by Samuel Summerville and others.

EDWARDS, JOSEPH

Joseph Edwards, a private in the Revolutionary Army, was born in Jefferson County, 1736, and died there, October 1, 1828. He was married four times.

He enlisted for three years and served as a private in Captain Thomas Blackwell's Company, Tenth Virginia Regiment, which was commanded by Colonel William Russell and Colonel John Green. He re-enlisted, December 18, 1778, to serve until the end of the war. His name last appeared on company muster roll, dated at camp near Morristown, December, 1779.

ELLIOTT, BENJAMIN

Enlisted, 1776, under Captains Bush and Hughs in the Seventh Pennsylvania Regiment, under Colonel Hartley, and took part in the fighting at Paoli, Monmouth, Brandywine, White Plains, and Stony Point. Applied for pension, January 19, 1835, Jefferson County, Virginia, at age of 78. Supporting affidavits filed by Jesse Phelan, Thomas Strider, James B. Wagoner, William Gilpin, and James Guest. Record No. R. 3293.

ENGLE, MICHAEL

Enlisted in Captain Stephenson's company in 1775. Reenlisted in one of the rifle companies raised in Berkeley in 1776. Probably died on a prison ship. Brother of Philip Engle.

ENGLE, PHILIP

Was in General Gate's army at Camden and was a guard at Gate's headquarters during the battle of Camden. After the war, he married Mary Darke, a sister of William Darke.

ELLIS, JAMES

Born, October 15, 1756, Frederick County, Maryland. Some time before the Revolution, he removed to Washington County, Pennsylvania, where he volunteered in the militia and spent six months (1776) at

Holliday's Cove. At the close of this service he removed to Ohio County, Virginia, where in July, 1778, he was drafted into the militia under Colonel John Stephenson. The next year he served in Brodhead's Allegheny campaign. After the Indian wars, he settled in the Northwest Territory, living in Adams County, Ohio, in 1845.

ELLISON, JAMES
Service—Virginia Va. No. 12944 No. S. 6821

Born, Mansfield County, New Jersey, 1757; resided in Augusta County, Virginia, 1768; and in Monroe County, Virginia, from 1771 to 1835. Enlisted in Monroe County, 1776, and served twelve months as an Indian spy under Captain Henderson in the Virginia militia commanded by Colonel Lewis. Received pension, June 18, 1834, in Monroe County, which was suspended in 1835, and may not have been resumed. Supporting claims were made by Colonel John Hutchinson, Peter Larue, and William McDaniel.

ENOCH, HENRY

Settled at an early date in Hampshire County, at the forks of the Great Cacapon River, on the road westward from Winchester. Here a fort was erected, November, 1755, for the protection of the settlers after Braddock's defeat. Washington stopped here on his return from the Ohio in 1770. Henry Enoch signed several receipts at Fort Henry, and in 1777 was stationed for a time at Grave Creek Fort. A brother was living at that time in Anwell Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania, which was then a part of Virginia.

ENTLER, PHILIP

Philip Entler, who had services in the Revolution, was born in York County, Pennsylvania, 1740, and died in Berkeley County, Virginia, in 1793. See D. A. R. National 123447.

ERNST, MARTIN

A Hessian soldier who deserted at the battle of Princeton, and later served with the American Army. He received a pension until his death some time after 1830. Resided at Shepherdstown.

ETHELL, ANTHONY
Service—Virginia Va. No. 12877 No. S. 6825

Born, Loudoun County, Virginia, February, 1757, and there enlisted, September 1, 1775. He served sixteen months in company of Captains, Triplett, Feggans, Cannon, Darke, and Major Levin Powell, Colonels Grayson, Merryweather, and Hardiman. Certificate issued, June 6, 1833, Fauquier County, Virginia, Greenbrier County, Virginia. Supporting data submitted by John Kemper, James Puckett, Reuben Murry, and Robert Coombs. (Probably a brother of Henry Ethell.)

ETHEL (ETHELL), BENJAMIN (Corporal)
Service—Virginia Ky. No. 177 No. S. 35286

Enlisted, March 28, 1777, and served three years as a corporal in the company of Captain Nathaniel Mitchell, Sixteenth Virginia Regiment,

Continental Establishment, commanded by Colonel Grayson under Lafayette, Stephens, and Scott. Fought at Monmouth and Stony Point. Application for pension was filed, August 31, 1818, Winchester, Kentucky, and Greenbrier County, Virginia. Pension was granted in 1820. Supporting data submitted by George Speak, James Rains, and Oliver Parker.

ETHELL, HENRY

Born, Loudoun County, Virginia, 1764, and there enlisted in company of Captain Cannon under Colonels Merryweather, West, Mathews, and Risbey. Lived in Loudoun, Prince William, Fauquier, Greenbrier, and Monroe counties. Pension application, filed in Greenbrier County, 1833, rejected on account of having less than six months service, and amended declaration was presented in 1838 showing additional service. Supporting claims made by William T. Mann and Joseph Newton. (Probably a brother of Anthony Ethell.)

ESKRIDGE, GEORGE (Captain)

Service—Virginia Va. No. 14725 and 31355 No. S. 8428

In 1775, volunteered in the Light Dragoons under Captain P. P. Thornton after the expiration of Minute Man service under Captain Thomas Jones. Enlisted, Northumberland, Virginia, 1776, under Captain Edward Hill in the Fifteenth Virginia Regiment. Commissioned ensign, 1776, and promoted to lieutenant, January 1, 1777. Captain Hill was killed at Northumberland Courthouse by a rioter. Eskridge was commissioned captain, August 9, 1779. He resigned his commission to General Washington at White Plains. Pension certificates were issued in his favor in Hampshire County, Virginia, in 1818 and 1838.

EVANS, EDWARD

Fought as a soldier in Braddock's Campaign and as such received land in 1772 through George Washington. Was also at Fort Augusta in 1765. Volunteered in the Revolution and served on the western frontiers.

EVANS, JOHN (Colonel)

Service—Virginia Va. No. 12508 No. S. 8444

Born, Fairfax County, Virginia, December 9, 1737; resided in Loudoun County at age of 13; removed to Monongalia County in 1769-1770, and died there May 1, 1834. His grave is in Oak Grove Cemetery, Morgantown.

He served in Dunmore's War in 1774 as a lieutenant. He enlisted in the Revolutionary Army, April or May, 1778, and served as colonel until December 20, 1778, under Generals McIntosh and Washington in command of militia from the South Branch and Ohio Valley. Built forts at Beaver Creek and Tuscarawas, and was county lieutenant for Monongalia County for many years. Many of his records were destroyed by fire in the office of the county court, Morgantown, in February, 1796.

Pension issued to him, Monongalia County, May 3, 1833. Supporting data submitted by Major John McFarland, Colonel Jas. Scott, Captain John Dent, (Thirteenth Virginia Regiment), Reverend Joseph Shackleford, and Zachariah Morgan.

EVANS (EVAN), THOMAS
Service—Virginia Va. No. 23449 No. 16002

Born, Chester County, Pennsylvania, February 28, 1753, and there enlisted, 1777, under Captains Robinson and Gregory Davidson. Received pension in Harrison County, 1834, but was dropped from the rolls in 1835. Supporting data submitted by Gass Martin and John Goodwin.

EVERETT, JOHN
Service—Virginia Va. No. 29624 No. S. 16786

Born, 1737, died 1834. Enlisted, September 28, 1775, Albermarle County, Virginia, and served as a private under Captain William Campbell, First Virginia Regiment, under Colonel Francis Taylor. Discharged, September 27, 1776. Stationed on James River and Chesapeake Bay. Applied for pension, July 28, 1834, at age of 81, in Cabell County, and received certificate the following year. Supporting data submitted by John Samuels, J. W. Rice, and John Merritt. Grave of Everett is in Cabell County, near U. S. 60, three hundred yards from the county poorhouse. (One reference indicates that pension application was filed in Berkeley or Jefferson County, Virginia.)

He was married twice; first to Sarah Tarlton, and then to Sarah Deadman. Among his children were Colonel John Everett, of Guyandotte; Nathan Everett, of Ona; Mrs. John Morris, of Teays Valley; and Mrs. Abie Reese.

EVERHART, GEORGE
Service—Pennsylvania (Sea) No. 19013 No. S. 6826

Enlisted, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, 1776. He served in the Flying Camp for six months under Captain Hambrite and Colonel Sutts. He next was a wagoner in Continental Service under Captain Bayard for six months; served two months in Pennsylvania militia under Captain Reem, and three months under Captain Brady. Then sailed on board the Monk to Cape Francis from which point he returned to Philadelphia, having served six months in the navy. Enlisted, 1782, on the Hyder Ally, a ship of war, commanded by Captain Barney, and was on board this vessel when General Monk was captured. While in the militia was in the battles of Long Island, Brandywine, and Germantown. On Long Island, he was commanded by General Sterling. General Irving commanded the militia at Brandywine, and General Sullivan was in command at Germantown. Pension was granted him in Berkeley County, in 1832. Supporting data submitted by William Gregory and William Good.

EVERLY, SIMEON
Service—Virginia Va. No. 23255 No. S. 8446

Born, Cumberland County, Maryland, October 15, 1763. Enlisted, Monongalia County, Virginia, June 10, 1777, and served nine months as private and Indian spy under Captains Neal, Ferrell, and Colonels Martin and Clark. Received pension, December 11, 1833, Monongalia County, but was dropped from the rolls later.

FARENCE, HENRY

Service—Continental Va. No. 7499 No. S. 39508

Enlisted in Frederick Town, Maryland, in 1776, and there received discharge, 1782, after six years service with the Maryland German Regiment, Continental Service, under Captain Boger (or Boyer) and Colonel Hausegger. Received pension in Harrison County, March 11, 1819. His wife was aged 50 in 1822 and their children's names and ages follow; Abner, 14; Nancy, 11; Peggy, 8; and Hannah, 6.

FARIS, WILLIAM

Born, County Down, Ireland, 1734; died, August 1, 1818, and is buried in the Old Stone Church Cemetery, Elm Grove, Ohio County. Enlisted, 1776, as a private in Captain Bentley's company, Colonel Marshall's Virginia Regiment, Berkeley County, Virginia.

In 1758, before leaving Ireland married Dorothy Johnston, who was born in 1735. Their children were: John, 1759; David, 1761; Adam, 1763; Mary Faris Yates, 1768; William, Jr., 1772. (William was a soldier in the War of 1812.)

Book Reviews

GEORGE WASHINGTON FROM 1732 TO 1939, by Thompson Howard Lewis, New York: The Pyramid Press, 1940. Pp. 336. $3.00.

Such aspects of Washington's life as are presented in this volume may offer some hitherto unread items of interest to the general reader. The author makes no attempt at a new appraisal of Washington. Mr. Lewis does seek, however, in employing Washington as a model, to imbue his readers with a sense of how Great Americans conduct themselves during critical times. In the author's words, "an appreciative knowledge of George Washington cannot but make us more worthy of our national heritage in these times of readjustment, when each for himself—must interpret the meaning of 'Americanism.'" With this idea in mind, the title *George Washington from 1732 to 1939* seems inappropriate though it intends to commemorate the One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of Washington's election as President.

Mr. Lewis presents a simple, straightforward account of Washington's life. Using documentary sources judiciously, with interspersions of colorful memoranda, he has assembled many valuable historical estimates of Washington's character as well as vivid accounts of his personality. The main value and charm of the book lies in these brief flashes of description and anecdote relating to Washington's life. Memorials and tributes, speeches and letters, portraits and sculpture—all are a part of the varied memoranda Mr. Lewis has collected.

Many, perhaps too many, books have been written about Washington. This lovingly written account is not one of the "too many." It deserves a place, even though inconspicuous, on one's library shelf. The book lacks both a Bibliography and an Index.

Beckley, West Virginia — Raymond V. Martin

FOREIGNERS IN THE CONFEDERACY. By Ella Lonn. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1940. Pp. 566. Illustrations. $4.00.

In the preface of her book, *Foreigners in the Confederacy*, Ella Lonn states: "Recognition of the part played by the foreign-born in the brief span of life of the Confederate States of America has been long delayed . . . the role played by the large number of foreigners who fought in the ranks of the Confederate Army has hitherto been hidden away in the Confederate descriptive and muster rolls. The present work is an effort to fill that gap." In the pages following the preface Miss Lonn very effectively fills the gap to the utter exhaustion of both her subject and her reader. She evidently has scanned all existing records as each

paragraph is replete with names and figures whose annals certainly would have gone unsung had not Miss Lonn chosen to dig them out of a dead past and prove to the present generation their worth to the Lost Cause.

After giving her reader a detailed account of the number and distribution of the foreign-born throughout the Confederate States along with their attitudes and motives, the author then proceeds to list individual foreigners found in the various branches of service in the army of the Confederacy. Very few of these foreign-born Confederates rated more than a paragraph or two. But seldom is there enough known about a previously unknown hero to make him a personality, instead of a mere name found in the records of the Confederacy.

The reviewer makes the above statements because she would not have the average reader believe he will find Miss Lonn's book either entertaining or exciting. He will, however, find a well-planned, well-written chronicle of the foreign-born man power that sprang to the defense of the Confederate States "with inspiring ardor." It is Miss Lonn's zest for painstaking detail, her authenticity, that gives her volume its importance. To the student of history, interested more in personalities than in events, *Foreigners in the Confederacy* will be of real worth. It certainly does, as the author feared it would, "overthrow long-cherished conceptions" of the old line southern families that "their fathers and grandfathers fought unaided for the great cause to which they devoted their lives." Miss Lonn has dug up too many foreign-born supporters of the Confederacy. As officer, knight-errant, soldier in the ranks, engineer, doctor, nurse, blockade-runner, they parade before us in a never ending line—all wearing the gray uniform of the Confederacy, too numerous and too active to be considered lightly by any historian who would give an authentic portrayal of the men whose courage and endurance held firm through four of the bitterest years of our country's history.

Beckley, West Virginia — MRS. CLAY S. CROUSE

AROUND THE MOUNTAINS, By Roy Lee Harmon. Dallas: Kaleidograph Press, 1941. Pp. 109. $1.50.

Roy Lee Harmon, poet laureate of West Virginia, is somewhat disappointing in his second book of poems, entitled *Around the Mountains*. In the foreword by Mr. Harmon we find him writing: "But I'll be the kind of a sucess I want to be if I can put some of the beauties of our beloved West Virginia into many of my poems before I die." A worthy purpose, indeed; and Mr. Harmon is at his best when writing of the beauties of his beloved state.

In this small volume, however, we cannot say that he wrote poems particularly typical of West Virginia, or of West Virginians. At least ninety per cent of them deal with subjects reflecting Mr. Harmon's pet "peeves." He's "agin" things, and he sits himself down and dashes off a few verses in rhyme telling the world why. The rich man, the model husband—Mr. Harmon says there isn't any such thing—Hitler, modern

breakfasts, dishonest friends, the present government's spending spree, ties and socks for Christmas gifts, New Year's resolutions, the movies, the radio advertisements, handsome men, ingratitude, radio cowboys, people who hate, people who try to get by, people who meddle, political campaigns—Oh! we could go on and on naming things Mr. Harmon doesn't like and chooses to tell the world in his little book of poems, *Around the Mountains*, but we won't. We're afraid Mr. Harmon's years of experience as a sports writer for the Beckley *Post-Herald* has made him a trifle bellicose and more than a little scornful of the frailties of his fellow men.

We would rather remind Mr. Harmon's readers that every once in a while he comes forth with a little poem that delights the imagination, and makes one proud of his native state, her people and her poet laureate. "The Country Doctor," written in memory of the late Dr. C. P. Bradley of Monroe County; "Grandview at Dawn," "Rural Philosopher," "Christmas Spirit," and the "Finale" are among those we would chose as being especially worth reading. And the little volume, in spite of its sermons in verse, is not lacking in humor and a homely philosophy that will put *Around the Mountains* on many a shelf by the side of its companion volume, *Hillbilly Ballads*.

Beckley, West Virginia — Mrs. Clay S. Crouse.

State History as Featured by the Press

MAGAZINES:

The Journal of Southern History (August, 1941), *A Confederate Trade Center Under Federal Occupation: Memphis, 1862-1865*, by Joseph H. Parks; *The Political Significance of Slave Representation, 1787-1821*, by Albert F. Simpson.

William and Mary College Quarterly (July, 1941), *The Six Earliest Churches on the Eastern Shore of Virginia*, by G. C. Mason; *Exploration in Mass Emancipation*, by W. B. McGroarty.

The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography (July, 1941), *The Buffaloe Settlement and Its Makers*, by Joseph D. Eggleston.

The Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine (June, 1941), *Life in Northwestern Pennsylvania Eighty Years Ago*, by Nellie Suydam Cowley.

The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography (July, 1941), *The Angelican Minority in Colonial Pennsylvania, with Particular Reference to the Indian*, by Frank J. Klingberg; *A Washington Affair of Honor, 1779*, edited by Marian Sadtler Hornor.

Indiana Magazine of History (June, 1941), *Some Civil War Letters and Diary of John Lympus Barnett*, by James Barnett.

Tyler's Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine (July, 1941), *Frontier Fortifications Along the Virginia Fall Line*, by William Newall Davis, Jr.

National Historical Magazine (September, 1941), *Music in Colonial America*, by Glenn Dillard Gunn; *Romances of American History*, by Elisabeth E. Poe.

Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society (June, 1941), *Was Abraham Lincoln Really a Spiritualist?* by Jay Monaghan; *Historical Notes: Mary Todd Lincoln Summers in Wisconsin*, by Lillian Krueger.

The Historical Society of Northwestern Ohio (July, 1941), *Mound Builders' Fort Within Toledo's Limits*, by S. S. Knabenshue.

The Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Quarterly (July-

September, 1941), *The Beginnings of Higher Education in the Northwest Territory*, by Thomas N. Hoover.

The Alabama Historical Quarterly (Winter Issue, 1940), *Letters from Jefferson Davis to General Beauregard; Diary of Edward Crenshaw, C. S. A.*

Americana (Third Quarter, 1941), *Abraham Lincoln and the Newspaper Press During the Civil War*, by John Paul Jones, Jr.

West Virginia Review (August, 1941), *The Re-Discovery of West Virginia*, by Bruce Crawford.

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Clarksburg Telegram, *Historical Society for Barbour County To Be Organized July 5 at Philippi*, July 2.

Clarksburg Exponent, *Three Generations Serve as Ministers for Leading Creek Church—Total 77 Years; Record of Murphy Family Unique in U. S.*, July 6; *Pindall Family Came to America in 17th Century; Owned Big Tract of Land Near Morgantown*, by Clarence J. Davis, July 27; *Early Historical Happenings in Central West Virginia*, by Clarence J. Davis, July 20; *Carnifex Ferry Anniversary*, Sept. 7.

Fairmont West Virginian, *History of Monongah, Mannington, Rivesville, Fairview, Worthington and Other Towns; Stella E. Morgan, Author Journalist*, August 10 (special edition).

Fairmont Times, *Alexander Scott Withers Farm Three Miles from Bridgeport*, by E. E. Meredith, June 24; *Early Days of Coal Mining in Marion County*, by Helen Fleming, July 2; *Historical Collection Presented to Mansion Museum at Oglebay Park near Wheeling*, by E. E. Meredith, July 19.

Wheeling News-Register, *Beautification, Exploitation of Mound Nearing Completion*, July 6.

Parkersburg News, *Carter's Estates*, June 22; *Pleasants Should Have Been Named Reynolds County; History Dates Back to 1844*, by Cordelia Moellendick, August 3; *Malster Family Sketch, First Settlers in Palmer Township, 1796*, August 10; *Name of Town (Lowell) Changed Twice Since Founding—First Named Adams*, by Dorothy Patterson, August 17; *Steele and Riggs Family Sketches*, by Cordelia Moellendick, August 17; *Story of Town of Volcano*, August 31; *Tribute to Wynne Grace Williamson*, by Minnie Kendall Lowther, September 7.

Dominion News (Morgantown), *Know Morgantown Edition*, 58 pages, July 16.

Morgantown Post, *Know Morgantown Edition*, July 17.

Wheeling Intelligencer, *Tunnell Hill, Marshall County, Possesses Interesting History*, by C. B. Allman, July 11; *Story of McColloch Family*,

July 31; *Family Sketch of James S. Poling*, August 9; *Story of Historic Deed of First Fourth Street Methodist Church—Property Deeded by Noah Zane and Wife, Mary, Feb. 24, 1818*, by Peter C. Boyd, September 7.

HERALD DISPATCH (Huntington), *Bronze Tablets To Mark West Virginia Birthplace of Two Virginia Governors: James H. Price, and Harry Byrd*, July 6; *John Day, 27, Writes Story of "Lost Frontier"—To Be Published Under Title, "Bloody Ground"* (a review), July 27.

MOUNDSVILLE JOURNAL, *Rotary Starts Move To Make Mound National Monument; Idea Suggested by C. F. McClintic*, July 9.

MOUNDSVILLE DAILY ECHO, *Marshall County Historical Society To Restore Old Cabin for Museum*, August 29.

POCAHONTAS TIMES (Marlinton), *Cheat Mountain, or Unwritten Chapter of the Late War:* Part I, *Eighth and 16th Regiments of Tennessee in Campaign in Mountains of Northwest Virginia, 1861*, June 19; Part II, *Camp Experiences in Greenbrier and Pocahontas Counties*, June 26; Part III, *Camp Edray*, July 3, 10, 17, 24; Part IV, *Big Spring*, July 31.

INDEPENDENT HERALD (Pineville), *West Virginia Song "Men of Tomorrow" Sung in Many States*, June 27.

RAVENSWOOD NEWS, *Population of Town of Ravenswood 276 in 1850; Names Listed*, July 3.

NICHOLAS CHRONICLE (Summersville), *Nicholas County Court House Gets Two Story Addition; Historical Sketch*, by E. M. Smith, June 26; *The Campbell Family History*, by Virginia Frances Hamilton (serial), began May 22.

ELKINS INTER-MOUNTAIN, *Monongahela Forest Peak Named Porte Crayon in Honor of General David Hunter Strother*, July 5; *Story of the Murphy Family*, July 17.

CLAY COUNTY FREE PRESS (Clay), *The Ruffner Boys in West Virginia*, July 17.

WELLSBURG DAILY HERALD, *Wellsburg, Second Oldest City Along Ohio To Celebrate 150th Anniversary—Settled in 1791 by Charles Prather as Charles Town*, September 4.

GRAFTON SENTINEL, *History of Taylor County*, Chapter 662, by Charles Brinkman, July 22.

WIRT COUNTY JOURNAL (Elizabeth), *Pioneer History of Wirt County*, by Tommie Sewell, July 25, August 8, 15.

MONTGOMERY NEWS, *Formation of West Virginia*, by Hal W. Smith, August 7, 14, 21, 28.

REPUBLICAN DELTA (Buckhannon), *Upshur County Historical Society Held Picnic, July 11, Celebrating Battle of Rich Mountain*, June 26.

Buckhannon Record, *Battle of Rich Mountain*, by Thomas J. Liggett, July 3.

Braxton Central (Sutton), *West Virginian, Elizabeth Baxter, Publishes Article in "American Home Economic Journal"* (reviewed), June 27; *Bits of Braxton County History*, by Charles M. Byrne, August 29.

SERIALS (Continued)

Grafton Sentinel, *A History of Taylor County*, by Charles Brinkman, began April 18, 1939.

Montgomery News, *Formation of West Virginia*, by Hal W. Smith, began August 7, 1941.

Nicholas Chronicle, *Campbell Family History*, by Virginia Frances Hamilton, began May 22, 1941.

Recent Accessions to the State Department of Archives and History

The Stones of Poynton Manor, by Henry Wright Newman, author, Washington, 1937.

Williamsburg in Virginia, by Rutherford Goodwin, Dietz, Richmond, 1941.

A Woman's War Record, 1861-1865, by Septima M. Collis, Putnam, New York and London, 1889.

Sheridan's Veteran's, A Souvenir, by One of the Veterans, W. F. Brown, Boston, 1883.

Women of the War, their Heroism . . . , by Frank Moore, Scranton, Hartford, Conn., 1866.

An Address to the Negroes in the State of New York, by Jupiter Hammon, Daniel Humphreys, Philadelphia, 1786.

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The Military Journals of Two Private Soldiers, 1758-1775, published by Abraham Tomlinson, Poughkeepsie, 1855.

Horatio Gates, Defender of American Liberties, by Samuel White Patterson, Columbia University, New York, 1941.

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West Virginia, A Guide to the Mountain State, by the Writers' Project, W. P. A., Oxford University Press, New York, 1941.

The Hardman's and Kindred Clans, by Paul Hardman, typed copy, 1941.

Frederick County, Virginia Marriages, 1771-1825, compiled and published by Eliza Timberlake Davis, Smithfield, Virginia, 1941.

Contributors

CARROLL H. QUENZEL, for biographical sketch see Volume II, page 262.

VIRGIL A. LEWIS, noted author-educator, was at the time of his death on December 5, 1912 one of the State's most distinguished citizens.

Upon the introduction of West Virginia's public school system, Mr. Lewis became interested in teaching and diligently prepared himself for the schoolroom. In 1892 he was elected State Superintendent of Free Schools, and in 1894 published *A Manual and Graded Course of Study for Country and Village Schools* which gained for him wide acclaim. In 1891 he founded the West Virginia Historical and Antiquarian Society, and the following year organized the *Southern Historical Magazine* at Charleston

A voluminous writer, Mr. Lewis authored many books and articles on local and state history. Among his published works are:

History of West Virginia, 1889; *The Life and Times of Anne Bailey*, 1891; *The Original Indian Territory*, 1895; *History and Government of West Virginia*, 1896; *The Story of the Louisiana Purchase*, 1903; *Hand Book of West Virginia*, for the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, 1904; *Civil Government of West Virginia*, 1905; *History of the Battle of Point Pleasant*, 1909; *How West Virginia Was Made*, 1909.

He was the joint author of the following:

History of the Great Kanawha Valley, 2 volumes, 1891; *History of the Upper Ohio Valley*, 2 volumes, 1891; *Virginia and the Virginians*, 2 volumes, 1897; *Biennial Reports of the Department of Archives and History*, for the years 1905-1906, 1907-1908, and 1909-1910.

The article, "Methodism in West Virginia from the Year 1800 to the Organization of the Pittsburgh Conference in 1825," which we publish in this issue of *West Virginia History* is with slight omissions Mr. Lewis' manuscript as read by him before the Layman's Association of the Methodist Conference in 1911.

C. H. AMBLER, for biographical sketch see Volume II, page 93.

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MRS. CLAY S. CROUSE, for biographical sketch see Volume II, page 322.

Editor's Page

If ever a nation's people were offered the opportunity to contribute to a changing civilization, it is the people of the United States of America. We are a young nation. We still carry our precious ideals close to our hearts, and march forward with our dreams in our eyes. We have an indomitable faith in our own ability to survive; we have a brawn that feeds on the fat of the land; we have a courage that comes from the knowledge that we, as a nation, have never been defeated. We have all good and material things at our finger tips; we but ask and we receive. Our government is still "a government of the people, for the people and by the people," and our honor among the other nations of the world stands unquestioned even by those who would destroy us.

All this we have, and something more: the opportunity to show the despairing peoples of the world that we accept the challenge they have flung to us. We can't do much to save the ages-old civilizations of Europe and Asia, so devastating is total warfare, but we can build up a nation on this side of the Atlantic that will serve as a shining example to all people who will once more strive for a place in the sun once this horrible carnage is over.

Now, if ever, is the time to create. Have you always wanted to paint a picture? Well, paint it. Have you longed to put your hand to the plastic clay and mold your own interpretation of life? There is plenty of clay for the taking. Have you sighed for the time when you would have enough leisure time to write that novel? Take the time. Man makes his own leisure. And by the way, the great West Virginia novel is still unwritten. Maybe, you are the one to write it. What if you are only a small town editor, or a country school teacher? You have lived, haven't you? Why we, as

a people, surrounded by almost breath-taking beauty, facing the love, laughter, tears and tragedies of our neighbors each day, have failed to find inspiration enough for an outstanding West Virginia novel is beyond the comprehension of thinking men and women. Believe with the great violin maker of Cremona that if there is a song in the heart, there is always a way for singing it. And create. Help to bring back to the world some of the beauty that has been so ruthlessly destroyed.

Pages 95-96 omitted in numbering.